

Vol. 28, No. 52

December 30, 1985

# BEIJING REVIEW

北京周報

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF  
NEWS AND VIEWS

**New Minister Discuss Public Security**  
**Reasserting China's Hongkong Policy**



**Sino-US Effort to Train  
Entrepreneurs**

## SPOTLIGHT

Designers at the Anshun Batik Factory discussing new patterns.



Artists of the Buyi nationality designing batik dress patterns.



Women sporting modern batik fashions.



## Batik

Batik is one of China's oldest folk arts. Workers at the Anshun Batik Factory combine traditional and modern methods to come up with their fashionable clothing and designs.

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## CONTENTS

### NOTES FROM THE EDITORS 4

Party Shifts Consolidation to Countryside

### LETTERS 5

### EVENTS & TRENDS 6-10

China Reasserts Its Hongkong Policy  
Islamic Culture Thriving in Kashi  
German Leader Visits China  
Learning English in a Pleasant Way

### INTERNATIONAL 11-14

Cartagena Group: US Plan on Debt Needs Reworking  
US-Soviet Union: High Hopes Remain Unsatisfied  
Uganda: Moving Towards National Conciliation  
Paris: African States Draw Hope Together

### New Minister Discusses Security Problems 15

### Dalian Centre Trains Entrepreneurs 18

### Education Reform Series (III): China's Education Holds Bright Prospects 21

### FROM THE CHINESE PRESS 24-25

### BUSINESS & TRADE 26-27

### CULTURE & SCIENCE 28-30

**COVER:** Wang Zepu (centre) is a good director of the Seamless Steel Tubing Mill of the Anshan Iron and Steel Company.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

### *New Minister Discusses Security Problems*

In a recent interview with *Beijing Review* and reporters from other Chinese publications, China's new Minister of Public Security Yuan Chongwu answers questions on public order, including those about parades and rallies in Chengdu and in Beijing's Tiananmen Square, and those concerning juvenile delinquency and hijack terrorism (p. 15).

### *Basic Law to Ensure Hongkong's Future*

The National People's Congress will, in four to five years, draft a Basic Law which will stipulate the political system for the prospective Hongkong Special Administrative Zone. The primary objective of the law is to ensure its long-term stability and prosperity. This and other aspects of the Chinese policy towards Hongkong were spelled out at a press conference given by State Counsellor Ji Pengfei during his recent visit there (p. 6).

### *Peace Accord Signed by Uganda's Opposite Sides*

Before the Christmas holidays the Ugandan government and its opposition National Resistance Movement signed a peace agreement. This should bring peace and stability to the Ugandan people in the new year (p. 13).

### *Dalian's Centre Trains Entrepreneurs*

While charting its own way to modernization, China is quick to absorb the positive experience, theory and technology of other nations. One of such efforts is the setting up of the China National Training Centre for Industrial Science and Technology Management in 1980, which is staffed with both Chinese and American professors (p. 18).

### *Party Consolidation Moves On to Rural Areas*

With the Party consolidation campaign completed in urban areas, the task has now shifted to the countryside. While the majority of Party branches and their members in the countryside are at least comparatively good, they still need to study and to be re-educated. A handful who have abused their power for their own gain or who have slid down the road of crime should be prosecuted (p. 4).

Published every Monday by  
BEIJING REVIEW  
24 Baiwanzhuang Road, Beijing  
The People's Republic of China

Distributed by **China International Book  
Trading Corporation** (GUOJI SHUDIAN),  
P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China

Subscription prices (1 year):  
Australia..... A.S 22.00  
New Zealand... NZ.S 30.00  
Canada..... Can. \$21.00

USA US\$22.00  
UK ..... £12.00

# Party Shifts Consolidation to Countryside

by AN ZHIGUO  
Political Editor

The Chinese Communist Party's efforts to consolidate its organizations nationwide, which began in the winter of 1983, has been completed in all departments from the central to the county levels, and has now shifted to the grass-roots rural Party organizations.

The Chinese Communist Party now has more than 1.1 million rural Party branches, which comprise more than 22 million Party members, or more than half the nation's Communists. The rural Party consolidation, which has involved the largest number of people and covered the widest area since the Party's consolidation campaign began two years ago, is an important stage of the campaign, scheduled to be completed in spring 1987.

Over the past seven years, China's rural areas have undergone a number of historic changes. During the economic reforms, the collectivized peasants created the contract responsibility system whereby remuneration became linked to output. In addition to giving the peasants added management decision-making powers, the system also injected a degree of dynamism into the entire rural economy. As a result, the peasants' enthusiasm for developing commodity production is now soaring, the rural economy has new energy and the peasants' standard of living has improved annually.

The success of the rural economic reforms can be attributed to the efforts of rural Party members and the rural Party organiza-

tions, where the majority of rural Party members are good or fairly good. Many of these rural Party members and their Party branches have excelled in leading the masses towards affluence through hard work. The Zhongtan Village Party branch in Zunhua County, Hebei Province, for instance, established a commodity production service company in order to

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***With the completion of Party consolidation in all departments from the central to the county levels, the campaign has now shifted to the countryside where more than half of China's 40 million Party members live.***

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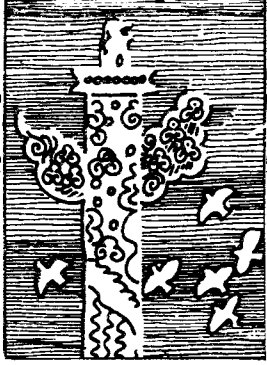
help the peasants overcome their difficulties in acquiring funds, factory buildings, information, technology, water, electricity and sales outlets. Their efforts turned the once poor hamlet into a prosperous village. Many other Party members have not only worked hard to better their own lives, but have also done their best to help other peasants improve their incomes by supplying them with money, technical know-how and labour.

However, in the face of such rapid and profound changes, many rural Party members have found themselves lacking mental preparations for and an understanding of all that has happened. Further study and re-education are needed therefore, in order to help these members meet their respon-

sibilities. Further compounding the problems are a number of undisciplined Party branches that have slacked off on their ideological and political work. Some Party members and cadres, forgetting communism's lofty ideals and the Party's sole purpose of wholehearted service to the people, have taken advantage of their power for personal gain. In so doing some have even violated the law and disciplinary codes and have, for the sake their own interests, slid into a life of crime.

As they were in the urban areas, the tasks of Party consolidation in the rural areas are to achieve ideological unity, improve the Party's work style, strengthen discipline and purify the Party organization. Currently, the problems existing among rural Party organizations and Party members, in essence, are mainly ideological. Given this, rural Party consolidation should stress positive education, and the overall enhancement of the Party members' ideological consciousness. Party members who have made grievous errors or who have violated the law and disciplinary codes will be subject accordingly to disciplinary action or prosecution, depending on the severity of their mistakes.

The education of the Party rank and file will focus first on reiterating the sole purpose of the Chinese Communist Party, which is to serve the people wholeheartedly. Such education aims to ensure that all Party members understand the importance of placing the state and the people's interests above their own, and that it is they who must be the first to bear hardships and the last to enjoy



comforts. Party members should also study various policies regarding rural economic reforms and economic development, so that they can be in a better position to lead the masses to consolidate and develop the rural production responsibility system, diversify the economy, and develop commodity production, education, science and culture.

In order to continue to inject younger, better-educated and more progressive blood into the Party, the consolidation of rural Party organizations will also include the reshuffling of Party leadership at the township and village levels. Reassures aimed at improving the Party's makeup have in the last few years produced marked results. In Hebei Province for example, 85 percent of its 51,000 rural Party branches have been reorganized, so that the current average age of the members of these Party branch committees has dropped from 44.5 years to 38.4 years. At the same time the proportion of members with junior middle school educations and above has risen from 37 percent to 70 percent, and a contingent of young, better educated and open-minded rural cadres consequently has begun to emerge. During the Party consolidation, additional attention will also be attached to recruiting Party members from among young and middle-aged peasants and rural intellectuals. After readjustment, the leading bodies of all rural Party branches are expected to become gradually more vigorous and better able to lead the masses to build a new socialist countryside.

## LETTERS

### Criticisms and Suggestions

Last year I had the opportunity to visit China twice and to travel widely, my previous visit having been some 40 years earlier. Needless to say, I was deeply impressed by the incredible progress I observed in every aspect of Chinese life and society. *Beijing Review* is extremely helpful in keeping up with the continuing development. It is most encouraging to note the frank, open attitude in your discussion of problems and difficulties and the efforts to overcome them.

Many articles concerning the present modernization drive and the responsibility system mention the policy of enabling some people to become prosperous first so they can then help others to do so. I have heard some voices of skepticism about this, which express a fear that this may lead to class inequality and hinder the development of socialism. I believe it would be very helpful if *Beijing Review* could publish some articles showing concretely how people who have prospered are helping others to catch up. That would help to set such fears to rest.

**Charles S. Brant**  
Vor Ixo, Canada

I think the photo duplication in *Beijing Review* is not good enough and is in need of improvement. The layout and print, however, are quite good.

Furthermore, your magazine advertises books in German quite often, but never indicates their price, which would be useful for those interested in buying these books. I will not buy them if I do not know the price. You should provide the fee rates in terms of US dollars.

It is useful to publish readers' criticisms and suggestions. But you should also respond in some way to those letters. Exchanges between readers and editors are most important.

**Christopher Sengfelder**  
Coburg, FRG

### More Explanations Needed

The article "China Promotes Innovative Jobs Policy," in your November 11, 1985 issue, was extremely informative. But I was concerned by the sentence, "By 1990, among the 400-million-strong worker force in the countryside, 100 million will be unemployed."

Later in the article you mention some measures that could be taken to combat this and, I hope, prevent it happening to that extent. As it stands, however, the sentence will be used by China's detractors to suggest that the unemployment problem is going out of control. Further explanation would be helpful, particularly as to what "is" going to be done, not merely what "could" be done to tackle the problem, both for countryside and urban workers. Also some analysis of what the 400 million people are expected to be engaged in.

On a recent visit to several villages in Shandong Province, we understood that only some 10 percent of the work force was engaged in agriculture; the rest were working in well-equipped mills, workshops, etc. or in sideline occupations. It was not suggested that these villages were typical, but that others would be following their lead.

**Alan Paterson**  
London, Britain

# China Reasserts Its Hongkong Policy

Before Chinese State Counselor Ji Pengfei started for Shenzhen on December 22 after a short visit to Hongkong, he expressed his confidence that China would be able to come up with a Basic Law for the projected Hongkong Special Administrative Region (SAR) desirable to all the Chinese people, including Hongkong compatriots, and that Hongkong would maintain its stability and prosperity during the 12-year transition period before 1997 and become even more stable and prosperous afterwards.

Ji, who is also director of the State Council's Hongkong and Macao Affairs Office and chairman of the Basic Law Drafting Committee, told a press conference the day before he left for home that the Basic Law would stipulate Hongkong's future political system.

"On this question, we have not formed a detailed concept or blueprint, nor have we any fixed pre-conception," Ji said. "In drafting the Basic Law we are going to canvass the opinions of the Hongkong people in all walks of life."

A corner-stone in China's Hongkong policy, he said, was the understanding that it was in the interest of all parties involved to maintain the prosperity and stability of Hongkong as a modern city, a free port and a financial and trade centre. Hongkong, he pointed out, had extensive and close contacts with many parts of the world, and its political, economic and cultural relationship with mainland China has continued to grow.

According to Ji, four to five years are needed to draft the Basic Law of Hongkong. "As the Basic Law will be drafted by the Nation-

al's People's Congress, the right to interpret and amend it will belong to the Congress and its Standing Committee," he said. The question of according the Hongkong SAR certain rights to interpret the Basic Law in the course of its implementation will be studied and solved in the process of making the law, he added.

The state counsellor noted that the situation in Hongkong over the last 12 months had been characterized by social stability, a growing economy and increased public confidence in the future.

Generally speaking, he said, the implementation of the Sino-British Joint Declaration on the Question of Hongkong had proceeded well since its signing a year ago.

He said he believed both China and Britain will continue to work in the spirit of friendship and cooperation on issues such as the continuation of Hongkong's participation in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, trade documents of Chinese residents in Hongkong, and the dovetailing of Hongkong's political reforms with the Basic Law.

A high degree of autonomy for Hongkong will be guaranteed by two factors, according to Ji. First is the principle of "one country, two systems," which is China's basic policy for reunifying the country. The second is the Basic Law, to be enacted by the National People's Congress, which will stipulate the Chinese government's principles and policies on Hongkong contained in the Sino-British Joint Declaration.

"All media and publishers can freely carry on with their work and activities after 1997, so long as

they abide by and do not violate the local laws of the Hongkong SAR," Ji said.

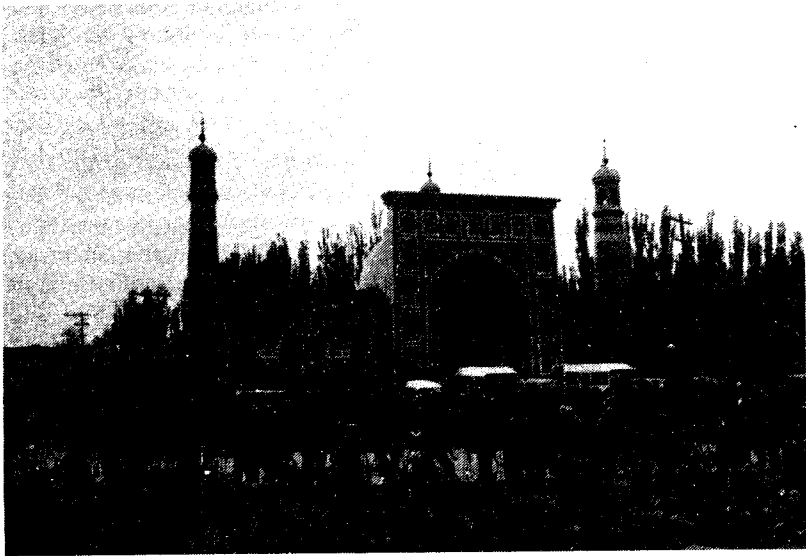
Commenting on Hongkong's future changes, Ji referred to the Chinese saying, "The quintessence remains, no matter how things change." The quintessence of the Hongkong issue, he said, was the unification of the motherland, and the stability and prosperity of Hongkong.

"I don't think people will oppose to changes that facilitate the unification of the country and the stability and prosperity of Hongkong," he said. "But we should avoid changes that would get in the way of the smooth transition of power and Hongkong's return to the embrace of the motherland, and changes that tend to destabilize Hongkong's social order and economy."

## Islamic Culture Thriving in Kashi

The ancient city of Kashgar in the southern part of Xinjiang awakes to loudspeakers sending out the pre-dawn message, "Great Lord, now it's time for prayers." Local Moslems hurriedly get up to start the first of their five daily Mohammedan religious services.

The message comes from the Id Kah Mosque, the largest of the 15,500-odd religious establishments in Xinjiang. Here the 7 million Moslems out of a population of 13 million account for more than half of China's total number of believers of the Koran. In Kashi Prefecture, with Kashgar and 11 counties under its jurisdiction, more than 90 percent of



The Id Kah Mosque, the largest of its kind in Xinjiang.

the 2.32 million people profess Islam.

The mosque, after more than 500 years of growth, now stands as an awesome historical landmark and tourist attraction in Xinjiang. The entire complex, covering an hectare, is dominated by a circular domed nave, imposing front porch and pointed minarets for praying. Passages from the Koran, *The Word of God*, skirted with artistic patterns in a style typical of the Uygurs, are inscribed high above the doors.

When *yarm al-jum'a* — the day of assembly — comes on Friday, about 10,000 Moslems turn up at the mosque to perform diving worship. But during the *Id Al Fitr* (lesser Bairam) and the *Korban Bairam* (Greater Bairam), the crowd swells to 50,000, which is more than the mosque can handle. Many stay outside, singing and dancing to the accompaniment of drums and horns from dawn till dusk.

The Id Kah Mosque is presided by Sadei Haji, 72, an amiable mullah who wears a white turban and white gown with blue stripes. The son of peasants, he came to Kashgar in 1935. After 10 years of

hard work and study, he became well-versed in Arabic and the Islamic literature.

Sadi can still remember the traumatic days of the "cultural revolution," when most mosques in Kashgar were demolished or closed down. Only the Id Kah and two others survived.

But today religion is thriving as never before in the autonomous region. In Kashgar, more than 150 mosques are bustling with activity day and night, and in the whole prefecture, there are more than 4,000 mosques and 2,000 sanctuaries in which the local people can perform their religious duties.

Many Islamic scriptures banned during the "cultural revolution" are being published again today. In Xinjiang alone, more than 100,000 copies of the Koran have been sold. The Xinjiang Islamic Association has published some 140,000 copies of a Moslim reader, *Sahih Bukhari*, in Uygur and Han language editions to serve Moslems who do not know Arabic.

The burgeoning religion has boosted the need for professional clergy. On the national scale, there is the China Islamic Insti-

tute. In Xinjiang, preparations are under way to set up a regional Islamic institute, and some famous *imams* are tutoring their own disciples.

In Xinjiang, about 2,000 Moslems have been elected deputies to the People's Congress or members on the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) committees at various levels. Sadi, as a prestigious mullah, is concurrently a member of both the Chinese and the Xinjiang Islamic associations, a member of the autonomous regional CPPCC committee and vice-chairman of the Kashgar CPPCC committee.

Sadi's second name, Haji, is actually a title for those Moslems who have made a pilgrimage to Mecca. Such a trip is a cherished dream for every man who professes Islam. This year, there are 427 Moslems in Kashi Prefecture whose dream came true.

Abdula Sijit Haji, who is the head of Kashgar's No. 1 People's Hospital, is still proud of his recent trip to Mecca as a member of a Chinese Moslim delegation.

"We made it to Mecca with the help of the Moslim World League (*Rabitat al-Alam al-Islam*)," he said. "They pitched up tents for us and ensured a constant supply of water, ice and fruit, which made the trip a pleasant experience, despite the high temperature and all the hardships."

For Tuhaf Molla Haji, a 60-year-old mullah, his recent trip to Mecca was a reminder of the past. A businessman for many years, he now is an executive committee member of the Kashgar Federation of Industry and Commerce. Though he was a wealthy man and dreamt of making the pilgrimage decades ago, he had considered the long trek too physically demanding. "At the time the best means of transport was a donkey, and the whole trip took at least six months. Some never

## News in Brief

The National Defence University was recently set up in Beijing as China's top institution of military learning. The university, by merging the former People's Liberation Army military, political and logistics academies is designed to train high-ranking officers for the 1990s and the early 21st century.

China now has more than 100 military academies and schools to train officers at various levels.

China plans to produce 260 million tons of steel during the Seventh Five-Year Plan (1986-90). This will represent a 30 percent increase over the total output during the Sixth Five-Year Plan (1981-85), when steel output was a record 200 million tons, 11 times what it was during the First Five-Year Plan (1953-57).

China is expected to turn out 37 million tons of rolled steel and 46.5 million tons of standard steel by the end of this year.

There are about 11.22 million self-employed business firms in China, involving about 16.69 million people. In addition, 2.5 million people are in 230,000 co-operative businesses.

Most of the self-employed business people are engaged in the service trades. Many of them serve to bring industrial goods to the farmers and farm products to city dwellers.

returned after reaching their destination," he said.

Today things are different. A Xinjiang Moslim can take a bus to Pakistan before flying to Saudi Arabia in a few days' time. This year, nearly 2,000 Moslims from around China have made their way to Mecca, including peasants, merchants and housewives. The Chinese government provides them with cash in foreign currency and allows them to take out a certain amount of tax-free commodities so they can use them as gifts or to sell along the way. Silk and cotton fabrics and art objects are among the most favoured items for aspiring pilgrims.

## German Leader Visits China

A delegation from the People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic, headed by Chamber President Horst Sindermann, arrived in Beijing on December 14 for an official visit. Sindermann, who is also member of the Political Bureau of the German Socialist Unity Party Central Committee and vice-chairman of the State Council, is the highest-level Democratic German official to set foot on China since the 1960s.

Before Sindermann's Beijing

visit, two vice-presidents of the GDR Council of Ministers had visited China in return for Vice-President Li Peng's tour of the GDR in May this year.

During the year-end meeting between the top leaders of the two nations, both sides pointed out the possibility of further co-operation. "China and Democratic Germany are socialist countries," Chinese Chairman Li Xiannian told his German guests. "Good relations between us are both desirable and possible."

Li spoke highly of the achievements of the Democratic German people under the leadership of the German Socialist Unity Party. Marxism is the fundamental theory that socialist countries should abide by, Li said. However, socialist development in different countries should not follow only one model.

Peng Zhen, chairman of the Standing Committee of China's National People's Congress expressed China's gratitude towards the developing ties between the two countries. Peng said both China and the GDR were building socialism and that there were no fundamental conflicts of interests.

According to statistics, the number of Chinese textiles exported to Democratic Germany increased by 40 percent this year as compared with 1984.

Hu Yaobang meets Horst Sindermann.





Meanwhile, China has become involved in more than 10 technological trade projects from the GDR. Earlier this year, China and East Germany signed an agreement in Beijing on the exchange of commodities between 1986-90.

Sindermann said that friendly relations between the two nations could help to safeguard world peace. Democratic Germany regards socialist China as a strong force for world peace, he said, and his nation's sincere friendship with China was rooted in its admiration for the revolutionary traditions and achievements of the Chinese people.

Sindermann pointed out that both the GDR and China were striving for the realization of socialism and communism, and were making efforts to halt the arms race and militarization of outer space. "We will not allow another war to break on German soil. We are willing to have dialogue with all countries," he stressed.

At the meeting with Chinese Communist Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang, Sindermann conveyed Erich Honecker's best regards to Hu, who, in return, asked Sindermann to convey his greetings to Honecker. It is said that Honecker, who is now general secretary of the German Socialist Unity Party Central Committee and chairman of the State Council, and Hu have had close ties since their years together in the international youth movement.

## Learning English In a Pleasant Way

One summer morning two groups of youngsters in their second year at Beijing's No. 2 Middle School were interviewing an Australian couple, Jane and Torrey Orten. The couple could



### Beijing Opens New Telephone Office

The Dongdan Telephone Office in Beijing went into operation on December 11. It covers a floor space of 25,000 square metres, including an operators' building and a business hall. With 40,000 channels and urban and suburban direct-dial telephone equipment, the new office has helped alleviate much of the shortage in telephone service in the southern part of east Beijing and created favourable conditions for future development. The office is the largest multi-purpose urban telephone office in China today.

only say "Ni Hao." ("How do you do"). But the Chinese students were found laughing knowingly at their jokes, asking questions and commenting freely on their opinions — all of which was done in English. This was one of Ding Jie's unique English classes, where her students apply what they have learnt.

But things have not been so promising with most foreign language classes in the nation's secondary schools. With eyes fixed upon their shoes, most of the kids are nervous and unable to express themselves in the language they have studied. And they often are bogged down with endless homework. Looking at one district in Beijing, the average points scored on high school entrance examinations of the major subjects in 1985 were as following: chemistry, 83.57; Chinese, 80.56; political science, 75.34;

mathematics, 73.71, physics, 70.8; and foreign languages, 60.43. Because of linguistic and cultural barriers, as well as lack of effective teaching methods foreign languages have long been a headache to Chinese educators. What troubles educators even more is that the students lack the ability to apply what they have learnt in class.

But 53-year-old Ding Jie, graduate from St. John's University in Shanghai, has invented a unique way to introduce her youngsters to English. She began experimenting in the fall of 1980, after taking a hard look at her two decades of teaching experience and probing into foreign language teaching theory.

Ding compiled a set of textbooks in which she developed a series of personality types pertaining to her students. As her lecture unfolds,

the students see one familiar scene after another: their own lives at school, with their families and in their social activities. At the same time, Ding kneads in new words, syntax and grammar. This sparked the kids to try a little harder, eliminating some of the embarrassment in the classroom.

"Sometimes those who are not lucky enough to be asked to perform their skills in the classroom would be aroused, eager for a try," Ding said. "Children occasionally say something unexpectedly good."

Unlike the traditional teaching method relying heavily on rote memory, Ding's course stresses the notion of English as a living language and the practice of communicative ability. By providing various language situations and adequate opportunities for the kids to practise, Ding gradually teaches her students that English is not only a combination of new words and grammar, but a new way of understanding and expressing themselves. Bit by bit they acquire an ability to say real things as real people about real life, not just to mimick or translate from Chinese.

Steering away from the traditional way of treating language comprehension, speech, reading and writing as separate parts of teaching, Ding takes these components as an organic whole. "Since the children have no difficulty in understanding and speaking, it is an easy job for them to read and write," she said.

The new method also has dramatically cut down on the amount of homework that costs, otherwise; youngsters much of their leisure time. Because of the efficiency within the classes, all that the students have to do, out of class, is only a brief review each day. This in turn fosters an aggressiveness in their study.

The reform of methodology, as in many other cases, drew suspicion

from conservative minds. They wondered if the students could adapt to the exams based on the standard textbooks even though they were more skillful in using the language. But the high exam scores spoke for themselves. Ninety-eight percent of the students who took Ding's course passed the high school entrance examination with an average grade point of 91. And 63 out of the total number of 100, including the less qualified ones in the two classes, took part in the college entrance English test a few days later. The average score was 63.5, with 67.6 percent passing the exam. This record was better than that of other high school graduates in Beijing.

The successful technique has drawn attention from Beijing's linguistic and education circles. Zhang Zhigong, a famous linguist in China, wrote the preface for Ding's textbook. "I believe Ding has opened a whole new aspect to teaching English as a foreign language," said Li Tingxiang, a professor of English language teaching methodology from Beijing Teachers' University.

The State Educational Commission has decided to recommend Ding's teaching material to English teachers in China. Today, 20 schools around the country are using it, and 60 others will begin the course next year.

The experiment, though efficient and successful, is found by many to be hard to follow. Some consider traditional methodology safe and convenient, while others find themselves "unqualified to implement such a course."

For Ding Jie, her success was only a beginning. She is now gearing up for a third-round experiment in an ordinary middle school. And she is also preparing a set of textbooks for senior grades.

"I love the saying: Today is the first day of the rest of your life," she said.

## China & the World

### Vietnamese Provocations 'Will be countered'

Chinese frontier troops will forcefully counterattack any Vietnamese provocation along the Sino-Vietnamese border, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said on December 18. Vietnamese troops have begun a new offensive against the resistance forces in Kampuchea, the spokesman said, and have at the same time intensified armed provocation along the Sino-Vietnamese borders.

### Opening Doors to Foreign Students

China's State Educational Commission plans to increase the number of foreign undergraduates from the present 3,000 to 5,000 by the end of 1990. The 190 subjects available at the moment will be expanded to 250 in the next two to three years.

The foreign students studying at the moment come from 109 countries and regions, 50 percent of whom come from third world countries. Students from the Soviet Union and East European countries numbered 181 this year, compared to only two in 1979 and three in 1982.

### Inner Mongolian Art Troupe Visits Ulaan Baatar

A 32-member art troupe from the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region recently travelled to Ulaan Baatar, the capital of the People's Republic of Mongolia, for a 10-day visit. This is the first art troupe from the autonomous region to visit Mongolia in more than 20 years.

## Cartagena Group

### US Plan on Debt Needs Reworking

**The Latin American Cartagena Group recently considered the US Treasury Secretary proposal on foreign debt. Their verdict: positive, but not sufficient.**

by **GUO WEICHENG**

**T**HE foreign and financial ministers of the 11-nation Cartagena Group recently studied the United States' "Baker plan" at their fourth meeting held in Montevideo, Uruguay, on December 16-17. They welcomed the monetary plan designed by US Treasury Secretary James Baker, but with caution and reservations.

Baker had unveiled his plan at the 40th annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank in Seoul in October. The proposal calls for commercial banks worldwide to increase their lending to the 15 most heavily indebted, 10 of which are Latin American nations, by US\$20 billion over a three-year period. The main point of the proposal is to alter the austerity programmes of the debtor nations and help them promote economic growth in order to relieve their burden. At the same time the plan asked the debtor nations to attempt reductions in inflation, open their economies and encourage more foreign investment.

The Baker proposal has not come close to solving the debt crisis, but it has, to a certain degree, altered the tradition in which the debtor nations were required to carry out tight-belt policies. It has also expressed a willingness on the part of the

wealthy nations to conduct political dialogue with debtor nations.

For a long time the creditor nations and banks have treated the debt issue of the developing countries as a purely economic one, and have stood by the concept that the issue should be settled through the IMF. However, the IMF has demanded that the debtors pursue austerity programmes to squeeze in as much money as possible to pay back their debt. The Latin American nations maintain that this has cost their people greatly and that the austerity policies have only encouraged hunger and decay.

In fact, just as the Cartagena Group pointed out, the current debt issue is not only economic, but also extensively political. The heavily indebted Latin American nations propose that the creditors and debtors should conduct political dialogue, share the responsibility and seek a reasonable solution to this issue. The responsibility for the settlement of the debt issue is not shared only by the debtors, for the issue has also resulted from the high interest rates and trade protectionism in the developed countries. During the 1970s, the interest rate of international loans was quite low, about 7 percent. As the 1980s came forth, high US interest rates caused extremely volatile interest rates at the international commercial banks. By 1982 the interest rate on these foreign debts

had skyrocketed to 16 percent. From 1979-1982, the Latin American nations were forced to pay an additional US\$49 billion. Since 1980, 50 percent of the new foreign debts of these countries are a result of high interest rates.

And trade protectionism of the developed countries has added an extra layer of frost to the snowed-under third world countries. Seventy percent of the export markets of the Latin American states are dependent on the Western developed nations, 45 percent of which goes to the United States. The United States and other developed countries have often forced down the price of raw materials and primary products on the world market, and this alone has cost the Latin American nations more than US\$52 billion in the past four years. By the end of 1984 the combined foreign debts of these countries had gone from US\$90 billion in 1975 to US\$360 billion.

In reality, the lack of a reasonable settlement of the debt issue would actually bring more harm than good to the United States and other developed countries. If the debtor nations refused to pay their debts, this would surely leave the world banks bankrupt and cause chaos in the world monetary structure. An economic recession of the developing countries caused by the heavy foreign debts would also lead to a shrinking of the world market.

One reasonable method of easing the situation would be to promote economic growth in the debtor countries, which in turn will raise their capability of paying off their debts. At the same time the creditors in the develop-

ed countries should realize their own responsibility in the matter by lowering interest rates, revising the terms of repayment. In addition, they also should remove tariffs and other barriers so the developing countries will benefit by exporting their products.

It is unfortunate that the Baker plan did not deal with the trade protectionism and high interest rates in the developed nations. If the Baker plan had proposed that the United States and other developed nations lower their interest rates, remove tariffs and other barriers to create favourable conditions for export from the debtors, then the plan would be more practical and effective.

The major drawback to the Baker proposal, however, lies in the fact that its aim is primarily to benefit the creditor nations. It suggested the Latin American countries open their doors to foreign investment as a precondition to giving out new loans. This awkward starting point can not lead to common interest, which is the fundamental reason why the Latin American nations have adopted a reserved attitude towards the US treasury proposal. The United States must therefore take further steps to consult with the Latin American leaders, in an effort to come up with more equitable measures to benefit both sides.

gation, which was headed by US Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige.

Since 1979, when Washington imposed sanctions against the Soviet Union because of Moscow's invasion of Afghanistan, the United States has dropped from Moscow's No. 2 capitalist trading partner to its 1984 rank of No. 5.

After several years of minimal activity, US-Soviet trade in 1985 is expected to top the 1979 record of US\$4.5 billion. However, Moscow now suffers from a US\$2 billion trade imbalance, a result of its large grain purchase from the United States.

Though the delegates' hopes for renewed trade ran high at the meeting, which was the first important US-Soviet gathering since last November's Geneva summit, there was no indication that the two countries will significantly step up bilateral trade. The Soviet Union insisted that there would be no major breakthroughs in bilateral trade as long as the United States refused to grant Moscow most-favoured-nation status. Soviet representatives said they hoped that US-Soviet trade relations could be established on the basis of long-term stability regardless of political differences.

Baldrige, however, made it clear that trade and politics would inevitably affect one another. US Secretary of State George Shultz reiterated this point when he said US-Soviet trade could not fully develop unless Moscow repaired its record on human rights.

## US-Soviet Union

# High Hopes Remain Unsatisfied

**Despite the enthusiasm of its participants, the recent US-Soviet annual Trade and Economic Council meeting made little progress in eliminating fundamental barriers in US-Soviet trade.**

by FAN YUAN

**M**ORE than 450 of America's top business leaders attended the ninth session of the US-Soviet annual Trade and Economic Council meeting, held in Moscow December 9-11.

Though no major sales contracts were signed during the three-day meeting, both countries did agree to co-operate in the construction of Soviet chemical and petrochemical complexes and on some agricultural projects. The two sides also made plans to explore jointly the Soviet Union's rich offshore oil fields in the hope of increasing the country's oil production, which has fallen considerably in recent years.

In a joint resolution issued at the end of the meeting, US and Soviet participants called on Washington to grant Moscow most-favoured-nation status, a major issue blocking a substantial increase in trade between the two countries. The remaining issues hampering normalized trade between the two should gradually dissipate as the two governments modify their attitude towards each other, said Dwayne Andreas, US co-chairman of the council.

Both the United States and the Soviet Union attached considerable importance to the ninth session of the council, which was set up in the mid-1970s with the aim of boosting mutual trade. Top Soviet leaders, including Mikhail Gorbachev, met with the US dele-



## Uganda

# Moving Toward National Conciliation

**Uganda is seeing the gleams of stability and peace as the year approaches its end. The government and its opposition NRM have finally signed a peace accord.**

by **REN YAN**

**T**HE long-awaited Ugandan peace agreement was signed on December 17 in Nairobi, Kenya, after nearly four months of bargaining between the Ugandan government and the opposition National Resistance Movement (NRM).

Ugandan head of state, Tito Okello, and NRM leader, Yoweri Museveni, signed the agreement at Kenyatta International Conference Centre, witnessed by foreign diplomats and correspondents.

The signing of the peace accord was a major coup for Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi, who had been patiently mediating the Ugandan peace talks since August, repeatedly calling on the two warring factions to bring peace back to their people.

According to the agreement, Okello will remain head of state and chairman of the ruling Military Council of Uganda, while Museveni will take over as the council's vice-chairman. The Ugandan government and the NRM have agreed on an immediate end to the hostilities. The commanders of the government forces and the National Resistance Army (NRA), the military wing of the NRM, will order a halt to all fighting.

Both sides also have agreed to establish a new national military force made up of soldiers from all combatant forces. A peace-keeping force from Kenya, Tanzania, Britain and Canada is to be established.

The agreement provides for free and fair general elections to

be held as soon as possible in order to return the country to a "parliamentary democracy."

The NRA was set up in 1981 in order to overthrow the former Milton Obote government. It supported a military coup on July 27 this year headed by Okello, who welcomed it to join the Military Council and new government. The NRA, however, charged the Military Council with not notifying it before its establishment on July 28. Later Okello invited NRA representatives to attend the conciliation meeting in Dar es Salaam, capital of Tanzania, but they refused to. Afterwards the clash between the two sides grew and their soldiers eventually came down against each other, causing some casualties.

On November 4 Museveni announced in Nairobi that an interim administration was set up, exercising the government function before the ceasefire was

## Paris

# African States Draw Hope Together

**French and African leaders met in France earlier this month to discuss Africa's further development opportunities.**

by **LU MINGZHU**

**L**EADERS from 35 African countries and France recently met for a three-day summit in Paris to discuss the major political and economic issues facing Africa today.

The 12th annual Franco-

reached with the Military Council.

Therefore, even though Okello had appealed to all Ugandans to rebuild a unified and peaceful country when he took power, he himself failed to do so. Nevertheless, the Military Council has seen some successes in other respects. The new government has been set up with 18 members, including the leaders of the Democratic Party, representatives of the Conservative Party and Ugandan Patriotic Movement, as well as the ministers of the former government. It also released more than 1,100 political prisoners and cracked down on crime. Okello's government has reached an understanding with three guerrilla organizations — the Democratic Union, the Front for National Salvation and Freedom Movement. To pave the way to peace talks with the opposition NRM, the government removed Prime Minister Paulo Muwanga, whom the NRM opposed, and appointed Finance Minister Abraham Waligo to succeed him.

After four rounds of talks, the agreement was finally reached. As Okello said soon after his return from Nairobi — the signing of the peace accord was a turning point in Ugandan history and it was now time to rebuild the "pearl of Africa."

African summit, held on December 11-13, concentrated on economic issues and regional conflicts, particularly those in Chad.

The issue of Chad, a sensitive one faced by Africa for years, stood at the top of the meeting agenda. Libyan troops have remained in the north of Chad



Leaders or special envoys of France and 35 African nations in the Elysee Palace.

after France had withdrawn its troops from the south, under a joint-withdrawal accord signed by the two countries last year.

Addressing the African leaders, French President Francois Mitterrand said France would "not permit the balance to be upset by a policy of aggression towards Chad."

The president also reaffirmed that France was not willing to send troops into Chad. But he warned Libya not to move its forces into the south, stating that any attempt to launch new attacks would be met with "corresponding counter-attacks" on the part of France.

During his recent trip to West African countries, Libyan head of state, Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, spoke of the issue of Chad many times, suggesting that a pan-African armed force be set up. Calling the military activities taken by France in Chad a form of "new colonialism," he warned that any interference in the internal affairs of Chad could trigger a new conflict.

Chadian President Hissene Habre has expressed his desire to meet with Gaddafi on "neutral ground." He has accused Libya of reinforcing its troops in northern Chad, and has warned that Libya might begin a new military push.

Looking further south, the

summit appealed to the international community to give further support to the southern African people's struggle against apartheid and to impose further sanctions against the South African regime. The six frontline countries attended the meeting for the first time.

Although the drought and famine situation in Africa has eased since the beginning of this year, there are still more than 20 million people in Africa suffering from hunger. Burundi President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza pointed out that the African population

has increased by an annual rate of 3 percent while its food production has only gone up by 1.2 percent. Over the last two decades, the continent's food production per capita has been reduced by 20 percent, he said.

Furthermore, the African foreign debt has amounted to US\$170 billion—a quarter of its total export income was used to pay the accrued interest. With such enormous odds against it, observers question the further development of Africa. Bagaza underlined that African development was, first of all, up to the obligations of Africans, while the international community and the creditor nations must also provide substantial support.

Abdou Diouf, president of Senegal and executive president of the Organization of African Unity, suggested holding an international meeting devoted to African debt problems. France showed its willingness to support Diouf's effort and reiterated that it would continue to speak for African countries at various forums.



## Featured in Our 1986 Enlarged No. 1 Issue

### Zhou Enlai — Consummate Diplomat in Action

A most absorbing account of the diplomatic life of the man who was China's premier for 27 years. This is only part of the 17-page coverage devoted to Zhou to mark the 10th anniversary of his death.

### China's Independent Foreign Policy

In this "Beijing Review" exclusive, Vice-Foreign Minister Qian discusses China's foreign policy, Sino-Soviet relations and other international issues.

### Travelogue: Sunshine and Shadows

In a most candid and interesting manner, a retired journalist records his impressions of a 100-day trip to south and central China: a building boom, an improved life accompanied by ominous consumerism, and many other encouraging signs coupled with new problems.

— New cover, new layout —



# New Minister Discusses Security Problems

*China's new Minister of Public Security Yuan Chongwu answered questions on public order in a recent interview with "Beijing Review" correspondent Lu Yun and reporters from other Chinese publications. — Ed.*

**M**INISTER Yuan, 52, assumed his post last September. He was formerly the deputy mayor of Shanghai and deputy secretary of the Shanghai Municipal Committee of the Communist Party of China.

**Question:** Recently, some foreign press reports said that China had arrested some university students who took to the streets to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the victory of the War of Resistance Against Japan, and for various other reasons. Do you have any comment on this?

**Yuan:** During this period, we made no arrests of university students who paraded and rallied several months ago.

The Ministry of Public Security's duty is to maintain social order and public security to protect the lives and property of the people. When university students in Chengdu (Sichuan Province) rallied in the street, some bad elements took advantage of the situation, and pilfered and vandalized public property and insulted women. As this was an obvious violation of the law, they were held accountable either by the factories where they worked or by their neighbourhood committees; some serious offenders were fined or detained for a couple of days. But not one of them was an university student marcher.

In Beijing, on November 20, some persons disrupted public order at Tiananmen Square. They were reprimanded by the police and were afterwards taken back by their units.



Yuan Chongwu.

According to the Beijing municipal security control regulation, no rally or parade at Tiananmen Square is allowed without the permission of the authorities concerned. As far as I know, many other countries also have similar laws and regulations. When some persons gathered peacefully at Tiananmen last time, the police did not force them to leave, but instead protected the safety of the participants. However, if some people disrupted public order, and the police did nothing about it, that would lead to anarchism.

**Q:** Some foreigners believe that China relies on its army and police to maintain its rule and the police exercise supervision over the people. What's your view on this?

**Yuan:** I think the Chinese police are most kind to their people. Unlike many other nations, they have never used batons, guns or tear-gas to suppress the masses, except during the "cultural revolution" when the gang of four directed them to use clubs on people.

In China, very few police carry guns while patrolling the streets. Regarding the police in charge of household registration, they have fostered close ties with the local residents. Working in co-operation with the masses is an important

feature of China's public security work. In major cities, ordinary people can often be found wearing the symbolic red armband, an indication of aiding police officers to direct traffic during rush hour or helping to keep public order. In Shanghai, more than 400,000 retired workers currently help monitor order in the city.

The motto of China's police is "serve the people." Though they are low paid, they work very hard and often have to risk their lives fighting against crime. The most hard-working and honest police in the world, in my eyes, are the Chinese.

For offenders, of course, the people's police are a deterrent force. And so they should be, otherwise they would not be doing their job. At the same time, we are striving to remould and educate the convicted offenders in order to help them turn over a new leaf and support themselves by their own labour.

**Q:** It seems some police are not polite enough to the public.

**Yuan:** We have set strict rules for the police to follow and are currently in the process of updating the standards and education of the police force.

First, we have worked out a three-year programme for popularizing the legal code among the police to enable them to work strictly in accordance with the law. Preparations are being made to offer three-month courses for each police officer.

While performing their duties, the policemen are required to behave in a courteous manner. Strict discipline is enforced within the ranks of policemen. If a few of them violate the law and discipline, they shall be dealt with

severely and no leniency shall be accorded them.

We are also trying to improve the method of street patrolling. For instance, in case something happens in the process of patrolling the police must follow a method, which is being gradually standardized, as regards what to say and how to deal with the case in that particular circumstance.

**Q: What has impressed you most since you became minister several months ago?**

**Yuan:** These few months of work have taught me that public security work is by no means isolated. To have strong social order, there must be economic development, political stability and, above all, co-operation of the whole society. That is what we call "comprehensive treatment."

For example, with the vigorous development of the commodity economy in our country — the result of the open policy and economic reforms introduced in recent years, there is a much faster flow of people and materials. This leaves more opportunities for robberies and more criminal cases occur in a commodity economic

environment than under circumstances when a small-scale peasant economy and a natural economy were practised. Three years ago, Beijing had only a daily transient population of 300,000, but now there are 1 million. In 1984, the nation's railway passenger traffic volume reached 1 billion. Also, due to the imperfect management measures and poor circulation channels and an underdeveloped financial industry, there is an inordinate cash flow right now. The specialized households in the rural areas and individual industrial and commercial enterprises are not accustomed to depositing their money in the bank. Some even lock up as much as 10,000 yuan at home and, when going out for business, they carry cash. This also creates incentive for pick-pockets and pilferers on the make. The settlement of these problems does not rely entirely on how hard the ministry works, but also on co-operation with other departments, such as the enterprises and banks, and indeed the whole society.

**Q: How about the juvenile criminals today?**

**Yuan:** The number of criminal cases involving young people is on

the rise today. One of the reasons is that the corrupt ideas and pornographic video tapes and books creeping in through Hongkong, Macao and other channels are poisoning the minds of our youth. The most effective way of preventing the young from corruptive activity is education. In so doing, we need to have more vocational schools where middle school graduates, who have flunked their university entrance examination, could learn labour skills, such as carpentry or tailoring. Convicted law offenders should be sent to learn specialized skills and we should cultivate in them the habit of obtaining education through manual labour. Ideological work and moral education among the young is the most important. China should establish its own socialist moral standards for the young to follow from childhood.

Juvenile offence is a worldwide problem. Compared to many other countries, however, the situation in China is much better.

**Q: How is the social order in the four special economic zones in Guangdong and Fujian provinces?**

**Yuan:** These economic zones have adopted a more flexible policy than the hinterland in their economic activities, and they are more exposed to the unhealthy ideology of foreign countries. Compared to the hinterland, these zones are experiencing more petty crime. Yet the crime rate is still lower than that of Hongkong and some of the developed countries. We are not excessively bothered by the comparatively high crime rate in the four special economic zones, as it is within our power to control it.

**Q: Can the increase in the economic criminal cases and juvenile offences and the social order in the special economic zones be considered a result of the economic reform and the open policy?**

**Zhao Guangzhong (left), director of the Chongxing Police Substation in Lingwu County, Ningxia, calling on a former juvenile delinquent (centre), who turned over a new leaf to become wealthy through his own labour.**





# BEIJING REVIEW

## Subject Index

(Nos. 27—52, 1985)

	<i>Issue Page No. No.</i>		<i>Issue Page No. No.</i>
<b>I. Domestic</b>		China Reasserts Its Hongkong Policy	52 : 6
<b>1. Political</b>		<b>2) Chinese Communist Party</b>	
<b>1) General</b>		Deng: Party Conference to Promote Young People	30 : 6
'Star Wars' Must Be Avoided — Deng	32 : 6	Meeting Heralds New Success	37 : 4
40 Years After: Reassessing the War in China	32 : 13	Plenum Sets Agenda for Party Conference	38 : 6
Hu Calls on Youth to Make Sacrifices	33 : 6	Conference Puts Future Into Younger Hands	39 : 6
Zhao Vows Stand Against Nuclear Arms	33 : 7	New Faces in Party Leadership	39 : 7
China's Contribution to Anti-Fascist War	33 : 15	At the CPC National Conference: Deng Xiaoping's Speech	39 : 15
Remembrance of Battles Past	35 : 4	Chen Yun's Speech	39 : 18
Hu Sets Up New Guidelines for Xinjiang	35 : 6	Explanation of the Proposal for the Seventh Five-Year Plan (Centrefold)	40
Nanjing Massacre: A Dark Page in History	35 : 15	Proposal of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party for the Seventh Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development (Centrefold)	40
China Pledges to Maintain World Peace (Centrefold)	36	Power Transfer: Smooth Sailing	41 : 4
Reshuffle and Policy Continuity	38 : 4	Party Eliminating Unhealthy Trends	51 : 6
Party Secretary Hu Acts on Letters	38 : 7	Party Shifts Consolidation to Countryside	52 : 4
Deng Talk Links Freedom, Peace	38 : 8	<b>3) National People's Congress and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference</b>	
Combating Corrosive Ideology	41 : 15	Committee Begins Work on HK Law	28 : 7
8 Principles for China's Diplomacy	42 : 7	<b>4) Cadres, Intellectuals</b>	
Hu Outlines Framework for China-Japan Ties	43 : 6	Choosing Tomorrow's Leaders	31 : 4
UN's 40th Birthday Marked in Beijing	44 : 6	Guizhou Gets New Young Party Chief	39 : 8
Rally Calls for Reunion of Taiwan	44 : 6	Intellectuals' Joy and Frustration	42 : 23
Work Together for Better World	44 : 15	Students Spurred to Renew Spirit	49 : 8
Students, Leaders Working for China's Modernization	46 : 6		
Socialist Culture and Ethics in the Making	46 : 15		
More on Socialist Ethics and Culture	47 : 4		
Reconsidering an Ambiguous Slogan	50 : 28		

	<i>Issue Page</i>
	<i>No. No.</i>
<b>5) Democracy and Legal System</b>	
Turning Prisons Into 'Special Schools'	28 : 28
Prisoner Takes College Courses	28 : 29
Health Officials Ban Fake Drugs	29 : 6
War Declared on Obscene Materials	31 : 8
Making Law a Household Word in China	31 : 26
Officials Sacked for Car Import Racket	32 : 8
Reform Farm Provides New Lease on Life	33 : 25
Efficiency Keynotes Civil Service Reform	34 : 6
Legal Firms Spur Rural Economy	44 : 9
China's Crime Prevention Meets Success	50 : 21
A Day in the Life of the Police	50 : 24
Legal Studies: A Nationwide Assignment	51 : 4
New Minister Discusses Security Problems	52 : 15
<b>6) People's Liberation Army</b>	
More Army Cuts Hit Supply Ranks	27 : 6
PLA Attacks Construction Challenge	30 : 21
Army Aims to Cut Ranks by 1 Million	32 : 6
<b>7) National Minorities</b>	
Ethnic Studies Show Progress	27 : 8
New Volumes Eye Minority Life	27 : 31
Minority People Living in the Capital	28 : 19
Visit to Tibet (I): Modernization in a Buddhist Land	34 : 15
Tibet Today (Pictorial)	34 : 19-22
Lhasa Celebrates as Region Turns 20	36 : 6
Visit to Tibet (II): Ex-Serfs and Serf-Owners Speak Out	37 : 15
Visit to Tibet (III): Science Changes Highland Life	38 : 19
Exercising Regional National Autonomy	40 : 4
Xinjiang: Vistas for Development	40 : 13
Xinjiang Proud of 30 Years of Growth	41 : 6
Visit to Xishuangbanna: A Jewel Set in the Southwestern Frontier	43 : 23
Exhibiting Custom of Tujia, Miao People	47 : 31
Islamic Culture Thriving in Kashi	52 : 6
<b>8) Others</b>	
Smedley, Strong, Snow — Bridge Builders From People to People	28 : 15

	<i>Issue Page</i>
	<i>No. No.</i>
So Much Love for So Many	32 : 23
If I Were Mayor	38 : 27
Veteran Revolutionaries on Retirement	44 : 27
Mao's Old Friend Commemorated	45 : 10
Ba Jin Answers Questions on Ideals	46 : 27
Varied Viewpoints on Religion	47 : 27
Low-Brow Diversion Causes Public Alarm	48 : 7
Social Science Research in China	48 : 28
Unhealthy Tendencies in Meetings	48 : 28
American Writers Dearly Remembered	49 : 8

## 2. Economic

### 1) General

New Trends Seen in World Economy	27 : 27
Deng Calls Reform an 'Experiment'	28 : 6
Economy: Promising But Problematic	31 : 6
Shanghai Hikes Productivity Level	33 : 11
Sixth Five-Year Plan Succeeds	37 : 14
Cities Make Plans for Yangtze Area	38 : 10
China Seeks Mild Growth in 1986-90	40 : 6
State Plan Fulfilled, Zhao Says	41 : 7
Economy Booms in First 9 Months	44 : 7
China's Prospects for the Year 2000	44 : 18
Fighting for Consumer Rights	45 : 28
Will Peasants Be Polarized by Changes?	46 : 4
Facts and Figures: Commercial Management Diversified	46 : 21
Ten Major Changes in China's Study of Economics	49 : 17
Dalian Centre Trains Entrepreneurs	52 : 18

### 2) Economic Reform

Keep Prices Down, Profiteers Warned	27 : 10
Wuhan Rebounds With Economic Innovation (I)	28 : 24
Economic Reform Brings Better Life	29 : 15
Wuhan Rebounds With Economic Innovation (II)	29 : 25
Development and Reform in Commerce	30 : 25
Efforts Urged to Develop West	34 : 7
Delta Slated for More Development	34 : 9
Business Abuses Bring Reform Call	36 : 7
Response to Price Reform	38 : 28
Economic Reforms Revitalize Cotton Mill	41 : 16

	<i>Issue Page</i> No. No.		<i>Issue Page</i> No. No.
Problems on China's Administration	45 : 28	Sino-French Oil Co-operation	36 : 23
Good Start in Enlivening Key Enterprises	48 : 4	Baoshan Complex Goes on Stream	37 : 30
Reform Heralds Economic Upturn	48 : 6	Argentine Ship Auctioned Off	37 : 30
Price Reform: 6 Months Later	49 : 6	Foreign Investments Top US\$10 Billion	37 : 31
<b>3) Opening to the World</b>		Sales of China's Coins Increase	37 : 31
Sino-US Giant Coal Mine Pact Inked	27 : 29	Bright Prospects for Offshore Oil	38 : 29
Chinese Leaders Praise Armand Hammer	27 : 29	Textile Trade Grows Apace	38 : 30
Foreign Investment Grows in Shanghai	27 : 30	Hainan Holds on to Open Policy	38 : 30
Cola War Called to Dethrone Coke	28 : 29	Mitsubishi Exports Batches of 'Lemons'	38 : 30
Leasing Business Grows in Beijing	28 : 30	China Honours Credit Cards	39 : 30
Law Office to Handle Biz Cases	28 : 30	Beijing's Airfreight Takes Off	39 : 30
Centre Offers Stats to Businesses	28 : 31	Harbour Builders Speed Up Work	39 : 31
Japanese Display Fast-Food Tech	28 : 31	New Lease Firm Set Up in Dalian	39 : 31
Import Cut Reports Clarified by Ministry	29 : 31	Jinzhou Foreign Trade Expands	40 : 17
15% of Imports Don't Measure Up	29 : 31	Avoiding Double Taxation	40 : 17
Corporation Seeks Power Investment	29 : 31	Communications Growing Rapidly	41 : 29
Equipment Import by Bid Invitation	29 : 32	Cities Secure More Foreign Contracts	41 : 29
A Profitable Joint Shoe Venture	29 : 32	Agriculture Fair Slated for Beijing	41 : 30
CJIETCC Awarded a World Bank Prize	30 : 30	China Sends Fishing Fleet to Alaska	42 : 28
Petrochemical Exports Increase	30 : 30	Claims for Defective Goods Settled	42 : 28
China to Display Metals in Tokyo	30 : 31	Oil to be Tapped in South China	42 : 29
Shenyang to Hold World Trade Fair	30 : 31	Beijing to Host Asia-Pacific Fair	42 : 29
Commodity Fairs for 3rd Quarter	30 : 31	China's Foreign Exchange Control Policies	43 : 20
Import of Foreign Funds Quickened	31 : 28	China Modernizes Rails With Loans	43 : 29
Trade Deficit on the Rise	31 : 28	New Policies on Port Building	43 : 30
Ningxia to Host an Islamic Symposium	31 : 28	Joint Ventures Prove Profitable	43 : 30
Technology Imports Double Pace	33 : 29	China Exports Live Sheep	43 : 30
Shanghai Barter With E. Europe	33 : 29	Imbalance Hinders China's Trade	44 : 4
New Plant Boosts Fertilizer Supply	33 : 29	Joint Venture: Success Speaks for Itself	44 : 21
Japanese Firms Display Fabrics	33 : 30	Mutual Trust Is Crucial to Co-operation	44 : 25
Open Policy to Remain in Force	34 : 4	China Expands Overseas Air Service	44 : 29
Hebei Holds World Symposiums	34 : 33	AIPPI Symposium Held in Beijing	44 : 29
Computer Graphics Exhibit in Beijing	34 : 33	Beijing Seeks Foreign Funds	44 : 29
Guangdong Uses More Foreign Funds	34 : 33	Cotton Export to Poland Resumed	44 : 30
Brewery Helps to Ease Beer Shortage	34 : 34	Launching Satellite Service	45 : 30
SIETC Workers Win Name Abroad	34 : 34	Chinese Ventures Set Up Abroad	45 : 30
Beijing's Prospects Touted by Mayor	35 : 9	Foreign Firms Expand in China	45 : 30
China Issues New Exchange Figures	35 : 30	Xiamen Zone Practises New Policies	46 : 29
China's Trade Deficit With US Mounts	35 : 31	Foreign Funds Aid Farm Production	46 : 29
BOC Loan Fund Helps Back Trade	35 : 31	Toshiba Corp. Woos China	46 : 30
Suzhou River Gets Pollution Treatment	35 : 32	Germans Buy Chinese Technology	46 : 30
China Relaxes Travel Rules	35 : 32	Beijing Hosts ASPAT 1985	47 : 7
China, Indonesia to Fix Trade Ties	36 : 22	China and India Boost Trade Ties	47 : 29
Overseas Bank Returns to China	36 : 22	Bridging Sino-Japanese Trade Gap	47 : 29
		A Joint Venture to Modify Boeing 727s	47 : 30

	<i>Issue Page No. No.</i>		<i>Issue Page No. No.</i>
US Investment Up in China	47 : 30	Test Well Unveils Rich Oil Deposits	40 : 9
China's First International Trade Fair	48 : 18	Baoshan Paves Way for Modernization	41 : 8
Aircraft Industry Proves Promising	48 : 30	China Ready to Improve Transport	42 : 9
China Holds Trade Talks in Osaka	48 : 30	Bumpy Ride Over for Beijing Taxis	43 : 8
CCPIT to Hold Fairs Abroad in 1986	48 : 31	Environment Polluted by Rural Works	43 : 27
Wool Company Wins Success	48 : 31	Astronautics Industry Takes Lead	43 : 27
Beijing to Host 3rd World Ad Congress	49 : 28	Nuclear Industry Advances in China	45 : 7
Imports Promote Electronics Industry	49 : 28	Home-Made Planes Flying High	51 : 9
Used Equipment Symposium Ends	49 : 29		
China Strikes Oil Deal With Australia	49 : 29	<b>6) Agriculture, Forestry and Water Conservancy</b>	
Foreign Funds Used in Wider Scope	50 : 29	Gezhouba Hydroelectric Project Revisited	27 : 16
China's Aircraft Takes Off Abroad	50 : 29	Forest Campaign Gains Momentum	28 : 8
International Railway Transport	50 : 30	China Sea-Borne to Catch Big Fish	33 : 8
Narrowing Xiamen's Technology Gap	51 : 30	China Takes Steps to Boost Meat Production	34 : 28
Sperry Markets Computer in China	51 : 31	Grassland Erosion Worries Experts	42 : 10
China Exports More Equipment	52 : 26	One-Third Lakes Found in Tibet	42 : 11
Sino-Hungarian Trade Expands	52 : 26	No Relaxation in Grain Production	49 : 4
UTC Varies Ventures in China	52 : 27	China's Fish Farming Jumps Upstream	49 : 21
<b>4) Special Economic Zones, Open Cities and Administrative Regions</b>		Rural Specialized Household Standards	49 : 27
China's Administrative Regions: Gui- zhou: A Multi-National Province Waiting to Be Tapped	32 : 24	Rural Enterprises Take on Economy	50 : 8
South Fujian: Golden Delta for Invest- ment	34 : 25	Rural Industry Advances Amidst Prob- lems	50 : 18
China's Administrative Regions: Hunan: Agriculture Enjoys Priority	37 : 20	Improving Disaster Control Measures	52 : 24
SEZs: Why an Experiment	39 : 4	<b>7) Finance and Trade</b>	
Special Report: Shenyang: Old City Takes on New Look	48 : 20	Financial Picture Satisfactory	32 : 8
<b>5) Industry, Communications and City Construction</b>		New Tianjin Zone Still on Way Up	35 : 31
Cargo Handlers Rough Up Fridges	27 : 7	Economy Girded to Beat Deficit	37 : 6
Developing Road and River Shipping	28 : 4	<b>8) Others</b>	
Construction Boom Stunts Development	28 : 7	False Advertising Angers Consumers	30 : 8
Hotel Growth Shows Imbalance	28 : 10	Upped Cold Price Bring New Rush	33 : 7
Controlling Industrial Development	30 : 4	Insurance Industry Revived	33 : 11
Government to Aid Rural Road Repair	30 : 7	Opening the Southwest: An Expert Opinion	35 : 22
Efforts Called to Spread Gas Use	31 : 9	Labour Companies Offer More Jobs	36 : 9
Bullet Train Proposed	33 : 28	Nation Censures Shabby Products	38 : 8
Hangzhou — A 'Paradise' Under Repair	36 : 15	China Encouraging Growth in Tourism	41 : 10
Spending Controls Halt Construction	37 : 7	Xingcheng: A Potential Summer Resort	47 : 25
TV Satellites Now Hit Outback China	39 : 9	Tianjin Has Something for Everyone	49 : 24
		For First Time China Tourists	49 : 26
		Changes in Chinese Consumption	51 : 29

### 3. Culture

#### 1) Art and Literature

Producing Shakespeare in China	27 : 24
How Critics Err	27 : 27
East Meets West in Dante Sculpture	27 : 31
Kungfu TV Dramas Influence Children	28 : 9
Crisis in the Film Industry	29 : 29
Rural Romance Is New Film Treat	30 : 32
My revelation From Peasants' Paintings	31 : 19
'Just Sing With Your Heart'	33 : 32
Scholar Research Tibetan Epic Poem	34 : 36
It Happens on a Stormy Night	36 : 24
Qing Classic Revived in Stone	36 : 25
Shiwan's Ceramics in New Guises	38 : 31
Soviet Opera Adapted in Beijing	38 : 31
'Four Generations' — a Hit in China	39 : 32
Going Full Circle: Brecht in Beijing	41 : 25
Ewenkis Display Customs, Arts	41 : 31
Contemporary Writer Yu Dafu Reap- praised	42 : 30
Chinese Dancers Bring Latin America to Life	43 : 31
Women's Literature — A Creative Force	44 : 31
Symphony Suffers Losses	46 : 28
Sino-Soviet Ballet Exchange Renewed	46 : 31
TV to Show Serial on Liu Shaoqi	47 : 10
Films, TV Co-operate to Prosper	47 : 27
Deng Calls Next 15 Years 'Crucial'	48 : 7
Alvin Ailey Stuns China	48 : 33
Comedy Captures 'Fun' Family	48 : 33
Sino-Malaysian Relations Develop	49 : 7
Memorial Hall Honours Cao Xueqin	49 : 30
Freedom of Creation vs Writers' Respon- sibilities	50 : 4
Peasants Lack Education, Culture	50 : 27
Recreating Strong's Stay in Yanan	50 : 31
A Late Artist's Show in Beijing	50 : 32
'Jing' Music Finds Renewed Popularity	51 : 32
Play Recalls Xinjiang's Liberation	52 : 28

#### 2) Education

Peasant Woman Studies Overseas	28 : 29
A Plan for Better Education	29 : 29
China Diversifies Its Language Craze	29 : 9

Higher Education Geared to Peasants	30 : 28
Officials to Train Provincial Teachers	31 : 6
Years in School Can Be Shortened	32 : 30
Fostering Lofty Communist Ideals	32 : 4
Overseas Study Gains Popularity	34 : 31
Students Lack Artistic Training	34 : 32
China's Teachers to Get Day in Sun	35 : 7
Educators Share Teaching Ideas	35 : 34
Education Given Top Priority	36 : 4
Population Education for Young	36 : 20
Enrolment Potential for Colleges	36 : 21
Adapting China's Higher Education	44 : 28
Education on Sex Broaches Old Taboo	46 : 9
School for Parents Tries to Curb Crime	47 : 20
Suggestion for a Chinese Award	47 : 28
Qualified Teachers Urgently Needed	50 : 9
Education Reform Series (I): Updating China's Education System	50 : 15
Education Reform Series (II): Tasks Set for Education Reform	51 : 19
Learning English in a Pleasant Way	52 : 9
Education Reform Series (III): China's Education Holds Bright Prospects	52 : 21

#### 3) Science and Technology

Western Plateau: Weather Research	30 : 33
Mathematician Hua Luogeng Dies	33 : 24
Developing New Energy Sources	35 : 33
Divers Go Down From on High	36 : 25
Importation and Superstition	38 : 28
Science Projects Win Awards	42 : 8
New Tree-Planting Method	43 : 32
Chinese Brains Reveal Masterwork	45 : 8
Prognosis for China's Computer Fever	46 : 17
Heading South to Explore Antarctica	47 : 8
Breaking Through Nuclear Technology	51 : 10
China Sets Space Station as Goal	51 : 29

#### 4) Sports

Asians Sweep Badminton Titles	27 : 33
Women Power to New World Marks	27 : 34
53-Year-old Wins Beijing Bike Race	27 : 34
Spikers Take Aim on World Crown	28 : 28
Body-Building Face Off in Beijing	28 : 34
Artists Portray World of Sports	28 : 34
A Special Breed of Athletes in the Making	30 : 34

	<i>Issue Page</i> <i>No. No.</i>	<i>Issue Page</i> <i>No. No.</i>
Li Yihua Makes Big Splash With True Grit	31 : 30	Volumes Describe Early Navigator 34 : 38
Softball Squad Shows Striking Advances	32 : 31	Collection of China's Laws Published 37 : 34
Nigeria Nabs FIFA Title in Beijing	34 : 37	Minorities' Folktales Have Happy Ending 37 : 34
New, Grand Master Makes the Right Moves	36 : 26	Archaeological Findings and Studies 38 : 34
Wushu Rage Heats Up	37 : 26	Chinese Pottery and Porcelain 41 : 33
Cup Sought by Minority Booters	38 : 33	The Life of a Former Kuomintang General 42 : 33
Women's Soccer in China	38 : 33	'Collected Works of Nie Er' Published 43 : 34
Chinese Athletes at Kobe Universiade	39 : 21	Tibetan-Chinese Dictionary Comes Out 43 : 34
Chinese Workers' Game for Sports	40 : 18	Out of Obscurity — The Works of Zhang Wentian 44 : 34
SA World Cup: A Show of Chinese Agility	42 : 32	USA Through Chinese Eyes 45 : 33
The Rejuvenation of Ethnic Sports	44 : 33	Examining China's Economic Progress 48 : 32
The Thriving Art of Shaolin Kungfu	47 : 33	Accounts of a Patriotic General 49 : 32
Women Spikers Add One More Title	49 : 34	A Portrait of Miao Clothing 50 : 34
Basketball Strategy: Tall vs. Agile	50 : 33	Author Delves Into Ancient Psychology 50 : 34
China Captures 'Go' Crown From Japan	51 : 34	State Revenues Climbing as Deficits Fall 50 : 6
Experts See Rise in Sports Activities	52 : 25	Regulating Economy With Monetary Policy 51 : 23
<b>5) Medicine and Health</b>		Converting From Foe to Friend 52 : 29
Artificial Heart Valve Lives on	32 : 30	<b>8) Others</b>
Tibet's Medical Facilities Boom	33 : 31	UN Stamp to Honour Chinese Oil 27 : 32
Progress in Stomach Cancer Treatment	33 : 31	Exhibition Brings Dong Folklore to Life 28 : 32
Master in Replacing Lost Hand	35 : 28	Newspaper Readership Booms 32 : 30
Virus Sheds Light On Cancer Cause	36 : 21	Popular Magazine Wins Many Fans 33 : 9
Progress Made in Medicine	39 : 9	Rare Crane Born At Qinghai Zoo 33 : 32
WHO Health Centres Serve Third World	42 : 20	Institute to Study Confucian Thought 34 : 10
Doctor Wins International Fame	42 : 26	Huge Petrified Tree Discovered 34 : 32
Wildlife Protection Urged in Tibet	45 : 32	Exhibit Focuses on Football Photos 34 : 36
Artificial Joint Material Developed	46 : 33	Tradition Rivaling Modernization 35 : 28
New Adhesive for Skin Grafts	46 : 33	Documentaries Make 'Reel' Progress 37 : 32
<b>6) Archaeology and Cultural Relics</b>		Mongolian Studies Progressing 37 : 33
Rulers Kept Cool in Ancient Capital	29 : 33	'Chinese Now Spoken Here' . . . 38 : 24
Model Provides Look at Han Life	29 : 33	Snow's Star Still Shines 39 : 23
Buddhist Relics Found in Shaanxi	29 : 33	An Amateur Translator 41 : 27
Early Man Traces Found in Qinghai	29 : 34	An Esperanto Enthusiast 45 : 29
Author Walking Silk Road, Wall	30 : 33	Museums Displaying the Past 46 : 32
Yellow Crane Tower Rebuilt Again	32 : 32	China's Springs Fascinate 47 : 28
Outstanding Archaeologist Remembered	34 : 35	
Art Display in Confucius' Home	46 : 33	<b>4. Social</b>
Clay Soldiers on Display	51 : 32	<b>1) Youth, Women and Children</b>
Chariot Creaks Out of the Tomb	51 : 33	Parents Suffer One-Child Blues 27 : 28
<b>7) Books</b>		College Students' Thoughts on Life 27 : 28
Marxist Pioneer's Works Published	32 : 34	
Martyr's Works, an Asset of Revolution	33 : 33	

	<i>Issue Page</i>
	<i>No. No.</i>
Sino-French Youth Gather for Goodwill	29 : 6
Students Find Alternate Paths to Success	29 : 22
Students Name Novel Favourites	29 : 30
Young Need Logic to See World	29 : 30
Young Family Managers	30 : 29
Infant Deaths High in Border Area	33 : 9
Modern Heroes for New Age	37 : 9
Women's Social Status Improved	37 : 28
New Concepts of Choosing Profession	39 : 28
Mothers, Children — Partners in Time	39 : 28
Answers of Primary School Pupils	39 : 29
Sending Traditional Love Signals	39 : 29
Facts and Figures: China's Child Population on Decrease	42 : 22
What Does a Woman Want?	42 : 27
'SOS' Flashes on Tianjin Orphanage	43 : 10
Two Generations Pioneer the Wilderness	47 : 22
Young Couples Want One Child	48 : 29
What Youth Want to Read	48 : 28
University Students Value Virginity	49 : 27
Modernization Calls on Youth Devotion	50 : 6
Educating China's Only Children	50 : 28
Shanghai Ranks High in IQ Tests	51 : 29
Helping Delinquents Through Film	52 : 24
<b>2) Population and Life</b>	
Life Gets Better for City Dwellers	27 : 9
Jiangsu Villagers Show Off the Future	30 : 17
Education Related to Birth Control	33 : 27
Guangzhou's Aged: Life Begins at 60	35 : 23
Prosperity Eluding Most Peasants	36 : 20
No Meddling in Population Policy	40 : 7
Better Lives for Chinese People	40 : 7
Success Crowns Population Policy	44 : 8
Family Planning Meets Social Progress	45 : 15
Population Workers Refute Slanders	45 : 18
Beijing Residents Seek Housemaids	47 : 9
Garden Fete for China's Elderly	48 : 9
China's Centenarians Abound	48 : 29
Knowledge Key to Modernization	49 : 26
China's Gold Rush Is On	51 : 25
Lucky in Love — Most of the Time	51 : 28
<b>3) Social Trends</b>	
Hengshan: Battle Against Poverty Is On	27 : 14
Wedding Fees Strain Family Ties	29 : 34

	<i>Issue Page</i>
	<i>No. No.</i>
Beijing Spectators Win Too	33 : 4
High-Rises Spell Isolation for Residents	33 : 27
New Standards for Choosing Spouse	33 : 28
China's Postgraduates Expounds on Love	35 : 28
Odd Philosophy on Selling	37 : 29
Promotion Process Wastes Talent	37 : 29
Keep the Fine Traditions	38 : 27
Have You Had Dinner?	41 : 28
After Peasants Become Well-Off	42 : 26
Northeast Floods Invokes Heroism	43 : 7
What Beijing People Work For?	43 : 28
Improvement in Endocrine Research	43 : 28
Chinese Farmers Turn Consumers	46 : 8
Factory Takes Lead to Convert Criminals	46 : 22

#### 4) Others

Tibet Rebuilds Monasteries	30 : 9
Hundreds Die As Storms Hit Coast	34 : 8
Most Emperors Died Young	34 : 32
Killer Earthquake Takes Heavy Toll	35 : 10
A Centenarian Pushes On in Xinjiang	35 : 29
University Sports Pick Up Steam	35 : 26
Elderly Playing the Mating Game	36 : 21
Thousands Battle Northeast Floods	37 : 8
Beijing's YMCA Back in Action	38 : 10
Monkeys Took Revenge	38 : 28
Open Policy Can Help Moral Growth	41 : 27
Beijing People's Timetable	41 : 28
A Victim's Personal Account	44 : 27
China Promotes Innovative Jobs Policy	45 : 4

#### 5) Supplements

Foreign Economic Contract Law of the People's Republic of China (Centrefold)	27
The Accounting Regulations of the People's Republic of China for the Joint Ventures Using Chinese and Foreign Investment (Centrefold)	27

## II. International

### 1. General

New Trends Seen in World Economy	27 : 27
Arab Countries: Hard Times Spark Re-adjustment	28 : 11

	<i>Issue Page No. No.</i>		<i>Issue Page No. No.</i>
Vienna: OPEC Sticks by Price Structure	29 : 11	Middle East: Arab Nations Set to Solve Disputes	39 : 13
World Forestry Conference: A Call for Forest Protection	30 : 14	Middle East: Behind the War of Violence	43 : 11
Casablanca: Arab Summit Seeks Unity	33 : 12	Middle East: Peace Process Stalled by the West	45 : 13
Predictions on the World Economy	34 : 31	GCC: Summit Signals Subtle Policy Change	47 : 11
Li Blasts Apartheid in Beijing Meeting	35 : 6	Yao's Gulf Nation Tour Cements Ties	50 : 9
Abolish Apartheid, Zhao, Mugabe Say	36 : 7	Dhaka: South Asia Takes Stab at Unity	50 : 11
Deng Talk Links Freedom, Peace	38 : 8	China Backs Kampuchean Leaders	51 : 7
World Economy: Global Co-ordination Badly Needed	42 : 12	Japan-USSR: Thawing Out After a Long Chill	51 : 12
Boosting Sino-Latin American Trade Relations	43 : 15	Hanoi Must Be Pressured Out of Kampuchea	51 : 15
China, Latin America Expand Technical Links	43 : 17	Letters by Viet Soldiers in Kampuchea	51 : 17
China and Latin America Cross Cultures	43 : 19	<b>Afghanistan</b>	
China Welcomes Summit Results	48 : 11	Major Shakeup in Karmal's Party	49 : 13
China and Africa Are Fated Partners	48 : 15	<b>Bangladesh</b>	
North-South: Co-operation Benefits Both Sides	49 : 11	China, Bangladesh Seek Closer Ties	28 : 6
Beijing Honours Foreign Couple	51 : 8	<b>India</b>	
OPEC: Asking for Its 'Fair Share' Back	51 : 11	Gandhi's New Diplomatic Moves	32 : 10
<b>2. China and the United Nations</b>		<b>Indonesia</b>	
China Marks Signing of UN Charter	27 : 6	Investment, Oil Fuel Growth	28 : 13
UNESCO: Steering Clear of the Storm	28 : 13	<b>Japan</b>	
UN Valuable, Former Official Says	30 : 28	China, Japan Sign Nuclear Agreement	32 : 8
United Nations: Session Becomes World Focus	39 : 11	Nakasone's Shrine Visit Draws Fire	35 : 12
China Advocates Stronger UN Role	40 : 16	US-Japan: US Bristles Over Trade Imbalance	36 : 13
China's Premier Reviews UN Role	42 : 4	Hu Outlines Framework for China-Japan Ties	43 : 6
The United Nations and the Third World	42 : 16	<b>Kampuchea</b>	
For Your Information: Co-operation Between UN and China	42 : 19	Rains Aid Resistance Drive	27 : 11
UN's 40th Birthday Marked in Beijing	44 : 6	Stand on Major Issues Reaffirmed	30 : 11
United Nations: Within Its Walls, Peace Will Prevail	44 : 11	Guerrilla Leader Bows Out	36 : 14
Work Together for Better World	44 : 15	<b>Korea</b>	
UN Resolution: Foreign Troops Out of Kampuchea	46 : 11	DPRK: Seeking New Triumphs at 40	35 : 11
<b>3. China's Foreign Relations, Countries and Regions</b>		Observations on the Korean Situation	38 : 16
1) Asia		Visits Aid North-South Relations	40 : 10
ASEAN: North-South Contact Boosted	30 : 12	<b>Malaysia</b>	
		Economy Stands, Despite Downswing	50 : 14
		<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	
		Reining in a Runaway Market	34 : 12
		<b>Singapore</b>	
		Economy Shows Signs of Stagnation	36 : 11
		Singapore Leader Visits Beijing	39 : 8

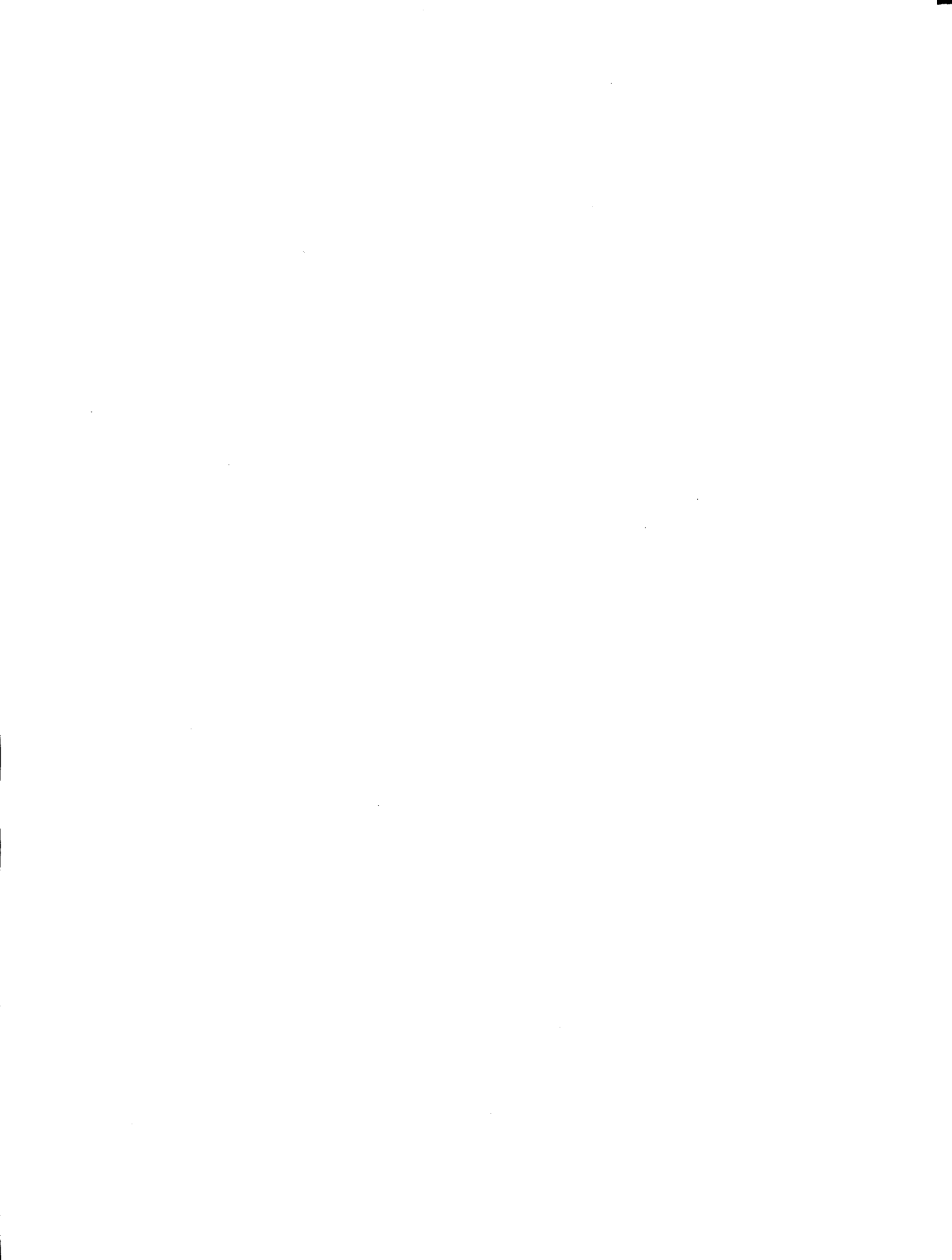


<b>Viet Nam</b>	
Hanoi-Beijing: Friends, Foes, Friends-to-Be	34 : 30
'Faith' Put on the Instalment Plan	35 : 13
Economy Suffers Despite Reforms	45 : 14
<b>2) Africa</b>	
OAU: Summit Focuses on Economic Woes	30 : 12
West Africa: New Chapter in Co-operation	30 : 13
Northern Africa: Expulsions Create New Tension	39 : 12
13.8 m Yuan Donated to African People	40 : 9
Africa: Economic Horizons Become Clear	44 : 12
Economic Situation South of Sahara	45 : 20
Economic Situation South of Sahara	46 : 24
Harare: Third World Conference Urges Unity	48 : 12
African Development Bank: Boosting Economic Development	48 : 13
South Africa: Nelson Mandela Leads Behind Bars	50 : 12
Africa: Power Peacefully Changes Hands	50 : 13
<b>Ivory Coast</b>	
Struggling for Economic Recovery	33 : 14
<b>Madagascar</b>	
Economic Situation Shows Hope	43 : 14
<b>Mozambique</b>	
Moving Ahead Despite Difficulties	27 : 11
<b>Nigeria</b>	
New Coup Brings High Hopes	37 : 11
<b>South Africa</b>	
South Africa: State of Emergency Condemned	31 : 10
South Africa: 'Reform' Call Brings No Progress	34 : 11
South Africa: Students Strike Despite Suppression	35 : 14
Nassau: Britain Compromises on Sanctions	44 : 13
<b>Sudan</b>	
Peaceful Settlement Looks Dim	38 : 14
<b>Tunisia</b>	
Air Raid Condemned Worldwide	41 : 12
<b>Tanzania</b>	
Nyerere Makes Way for the Young	45 : 11

<b>Uganda</b>	
Obote Government Overthrown	32 : 11
New Government Walks a Thin Line	36 : 13
Moving Towards National Consolidation	52 : 13
<b>Zimbabwe</b>	
Mugabe's Victory Provides Mandate	29 : 11
<b>Zambia</b>	
'Green Revolution' Takes Root	29 : 14
<b>3) Latin America</b>	
Central America: Peace Moves Fail Again	27 : 12
Latin America: A Growing Force in US Life	34 : 13
Central America: A Hopeful Step in the Peace Process	36 : 11
Premier Zhao's S. American Trip	43 : 4
Latin America: Area Economics Get Second Wind	46 : 12
China, Nicaragua Foster Ties	50 : 7
Cartagena Group: US Plan on Debt Needs Reworking	52 : 11
<b>Brazil</b>	
Economic Boom Gained at a Price	45 : 11
Premier Zhao Tours Brazil	46 : 6
Zhao's L. America Trip: Seeing Is Believing	47 : 6
Central America: Contadora Persists in Peace Pursuit	49 : 12
<b>Colombia</b>	
Zhao in Bogota: Old Friend Comes Home	45 : 6
<b>Chile</b>	
Shuttle Pact Launches Controversy	33 : 13
Democracy Meets Resistance	42 : 14
<b>Guatemala</b>	
Guarding the Democratic Progress	47 : 13
<b>Mexico</b>	
Chinese Provide \$200,000 to Mexico	40 : 8
<b>Nicaragua</b>	
Wrapping Up 1985 in Struggle	51 : 12
<b>Panama</b>	
President Resigns Amid Controversy	41 : 13
<b>Peru</b>	
Empty Coffers Spur Dramatic Acts	35 : 13

	<i>Issue Page</i> <i>No. No.</i>		<i>Issue Page</i> <i>No. No.</i>
<b>4) North America</b>		Western Countries: Unemployment Crisis	
President Li to Visit US, Canada	27 : 4	Continues	29 : 13
<b>Canada</b>		Western Europe: Nations Line Up Behind	
Li Finds Eager Partner in Canada	30 : 15	Eureka	31 : 12
<b>United States</b>		SDI: Western Europe Faces Challenge	31 : 22
Sino-US Trade Ties and Legal Ex-		Western Europe: The EC Lashes Out at	
changes	27 : 20	Apartheid	34 : 11
Image of US Media — A Chinese		Geneva: For Equal Use of Space and Sea	37 : 12
View	27 : 22	South Pacific: French Interests Under	
Sino-US Trade Faces Severe Test	29 : 4	Fire	38 : 13
Space Traveller Visits Homeland	29 : 7	EC: Treaty Reforms to Speed Change	39 : 14
US Diplomacy: Shultz's Trip Yields		Eureka Signals Shift in Western Alliance	47 : 15
Mixed Results	31 : 11	EEC: Keeping Up With the Times	50 : 13
Li's US Visit Improves Bilateral Relations	31 : 13	<b>Albania</b>	
US-Japan: US Bristle Over Trade Imbal-		Expanding Foreign Trade Relations	44 : 14
ance	36 : 13	Leaving at Least a Window Ajar	47 : 14
US-USSR: Flexing Pre-Summit Muscle	37 : 13	<b>Britain</b>	
United States: Sanctions Against S Africa		Unemployment Causes Social Unrest	39 : 13
Ordered	37 : 11	Hope Renewed for Mideast Peace	40 : 12
United States: Jenkins Bill Haunts Asian		The Uphill Race for Whitehall	42 : 15
Textiles	38 : 12	Britain-Ireland: A Breakthrough in	
Washington: United States Among Net		Diplomacy	48 : 14
Debtors	41 : 14	<b>Bulgaria</b>	
Sino-US Relations: Opportunities and		Private Economy Makes Strides	38 : 13
Potential Crisis	41 : 21	<b>Federal Republic of Germany</b>	
Sino-US Relations Stable but Thorny	42 : 7	Bonn-Paris: Leaders Linking Up to	
United States: Intervention Reduces		Fortify NATO	36 : 12
Dollars	42 : 13	<b>Finland</b>	
Soviet-US: Slim Chances for Summit		Helsinki: CSCE, Ten Years in Retrospect	32 : 11
Success	43 : 13	<b>France</b>	
USA — Labour & Labour Movement	45 : 23	Sino-French Youth Gather for Goodwill	29 : 6
US-USSR Leaders in Geneva: Summit		Bonn-Paris: Leaders Linking Up to	
Rivets World Attention	47 : 13	Fortify NATO	36 : 12
US-Soviet Summit: Better Relations on		An Admission of Guilt From Elysee	40 : 11
the Horizon?	48 : 11	Eureka: Cementing the Uncertainty	46 : 14
United States: Trade Policies Remain		Austerity Measures Stem Inflation	51 : 14
Sensitive	49 : 14	Paris: African States Draw Hope To-	
A Qualitative Escalation in the Super-		gether	52 : 13
power Arms Race	49 : 15	<b>German Democratic Republic</b>	
US Textile Bill Sparks Protest	51 : 9	German Leader Visits China	52 : 8
US-Soviet Union: High Hopes Remain		<b>Gibraltar</b>	
Unsatisfied	52 : 12	New Steps for Control of the Rock	51 : 13
<b>5) Europe</b>		<b>Italy</b>	
European Community: Working Towards		Economy Makes Belated Recovery	27 : 13
Political Union	28 : 12	Natta Visit Boosts Party Relations	43 : 6
Comecon: Meeting Plans Five-Year Links	29 : 12	Craxi's Government Collapses	43 : 12

	<i>Issue Page</i> <i>No. No.</i>	<i>Issue Page</i> <i>No. No.</i>
<b>The Netherlands</b>		
Mixed Reaction to Cruise Treaty	45 : 12	Sino-Soviet Moves to Improve Ties Bringing Prosperity to Siberia
<b>Norway</b>		44 : 10 46 : 13
Government Faces New Trials	38 : 15	US-USSR Leaders in Geneva: Summit Rivets World Attention
<b>Poland</b>		47 : 13
Economic Reforms Look Hopeful	32 : 12	US-Soviet Summit: Better Relations on the Horizon?
High Voter Turnout for Parliament	43 : 13	48 : 11
<b>Portugal</b>		A Qualitative Escalation in the Super- power Arms Race
Social-Democrats Walk a Tightrope	47 : 12	49 : 15
<b>Romania</b>		US-Soviet Union: High Hopes Remain Unsatisfied
Ceausescu in Beijing: Friendship Renewed	42 : 6	52 : 12
<b>Soviet Union</b>		<b>6) Oceania</b>
Progress Made in Sino-Soviet Relations	30 : 6	South Pacific Forum: Nuclear-Free Zone Declared
US-USSR: Flexing Pre-Summit Muscle	37 : 13	33 : 12
Moscow's Diplomatic Initiative	41 : 11	Australia, New Zealand Show Indepen- dence
Soviet-US: Slim Chances for Summit Success	43 : 13	33 : 20
		Australia, New Zealand Assert Indepen- dence
		34 : 24
		Australia: Sandwiched Between Partners
		49 : 13



**Yuan:** The ongoing economic reforms and the open policy have greatly boosted economic development and living standards in China. This is crystal clear to the Chinese and many foreigners have the same impression as well. During the transition, however, there are bound to be some old customs that do not quite mesh with the new. It will take time for them to adapt to the new situation. Problems that arise from the economic reforms are not that serious and they can be overcome easily.

China will not change the course of its economic reforms and the open policy because of these minor problems. The majority of the Chinese are greatly benefiting from the economic reforms and the open policy. Therefore, the new policy will continue to be followed.

**Q: What progress do you believe China has made since criminal acts were severely dealt with in the latter half of 1983?**

**Yuan:** An important aspect of the public security work is that the masses have a sense of security. Since 1983, the Chinese people are feeling safer, for various reasons. For one, the crime rate is dropping steadily. The crime rate in the 22 months since September 1983 has dropped by 36.4 percent compared to the corresponding period before September 1983.

We have also disbanded more than 130,000 criminal gangs that were posing a serious threat to society. Public order has much improved. Today, the average Chinese citizen is not as afraid to report a crime or suspect to the police as before. Since the latter half of 1983, more than 2.2 million clues to criminal activities have been reported to the local police, facilitating more than 150,000 arrests.

China has one of the lowest crime rates in the world. In 1984,



**Zhang Chaoze** (middle), a policeman of Zhangye County in Gansu Province, returning stolen money to the owner.

the crime rate dropped to five out of every 10,000 persons in China.

**Q: What is the prospect for the improvement of traffic problems in big cities?**

**Yuan:** The police departments are doing their best to ease the situation. Because the number of motor vehicles in big cities far outweighs the number of new roads built in the last three decades, traffic congestion is serious. The fundamental solution is the construction of more roads in both the urban and rural areas.

**Q: What precautions have been taken to prevent hijack terrorism in China?**

**Yuan:** Like all the other countries in the world, China is most concerned about air piracy and will punish hijackers severely. China has been a contracting party to international conventions concerned.

In combating hijacking, we have called for co-ordinated efforts between various departments. We have taken measures such as demanding the necessary documents from ticket buyers, luggage checks before the passengers board the planes and various on-board safety measures.

**Q: How do you plan to further improve the work of the public**

**security ministry?**

**Yuan:** Reform of the public security work is being conducted with political and economic progress. This includes the enactment of laws and regulations. For example, a month ago, we put into effect a law simplifying the procedures of foreigners and Chinese coming in and out of China.

**Q: Do you have any contact with the police authorities in Hongkong?**

**Yuan:** The Guangdong Provincial Police Department has been in contact with the police authorities in Hongkong for years. They often meet at borders to exchange leads to criminal activities and their efforts have been well paid. Police from both sides have visited each other this year.

**Q: What kind of relationship does the Chinese public security department have with the international police organizations?**

**Yuan:** We joined the International Police Federation (IPF) last year, and Zhu Entao, deputy director of the International Cooperation Department of the Ministry of Public Security, was elected an executive committee member of that organization. So far, China has established cooperative relationship with 62

members of the IPF and has a radio station from where international information can be received or sent out. We have also built bilateral ties with some foreign counterparts.

**Q: How often have you gotten down to the grass-roots level since you became the minister of public security?**

**Yuan:** Currently, I'm working to familiarize myself with my work and the situation. I have already been to various departments, colleges and units directly under the ministry, the Beijing Public Security Bureau and the sub-

bureaus in most of the districts and counties of Beijing. I have also visited the public security units in Heilongjiang Province.

**Q: What is your background that brings you into this job?**

**Yuan:** In 1957, I graduated from the Moscow Automobile Machinery Institute and returned to work at the Casting Research Institute under the First Ministry of Machine-Building in Shenyang, northeast China. In 1962 I was transferred to be deputy director of the Shanghai Materials Research Institute under the First

Ministry of Machine-Building. In 1971, I was made deputy secretary-general of the Shanghai Science Association. Later, I worked as the science and technology counsellor at the Chinese Embassy in the Federal Republic of Germany. In 1983, I was elected deputy mayor of Shanghai by the Shanghai Municipal People's Congress and put in charge of city planning.

In September this year, I was appointed Minister of Public Security at the 12th Session of the 6th National People's Congress Standing Committee. □

## Dalian Centre Trains Entrepreneurs

*While charting its own way to modernization, China is quick to absorb the positive experience, theory and technology of other countries. The setting up of the China National Training Centre for Industrial Science and Technology Management (in Dalian) provides a case in point. This article covers achievements made since the centre's inception in 1980. — Ed.*

by **HAN BAOCHENG**  
Our Correspondent

**T**HE China National Training Centre for Industrial Science and Technology Management is housed in the Dalian Engineering Institute. The seaboard city of Dalian is of country wide importance for its shipbuilding, machinery and chemical industries.

Formed in accordance with the Sino-American Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation signed in April 1980, the Dalian centre is co-managed by the Chinese State Science and Technology Commission, Educational Commission, and Economic Commission together with the United States Department of Commerce. After four months' preparation, the centre started classes in August the same year.

The centre runs six-month sem-

inars each with an enrolment of about 150 for factory directors, company managers, state economic and science department cadres and university administrators. Beginning in October 1984, the centre and New York State University at Buffalo jointly provided two-year enterprise management courses for postgraduate studies. By the end of 1984, the centre had trained altogether 1,041 people including leaders from the 14 open coastal cities and elsewhere in China. During April 1984, when President Ronald Reagan visited China, both governments agreed to continue the co-management of the Dalian centre from 1985 to 1989.

The money needed to keep the training project going comes from both contracting parties. Thus far, the centre has built a classroom building with a floor space of 5,100 square metres, equipped with modern teaching aids, stu-

dent dorms and a guest-house for American staff members. At first, all the courses were taught by American teachers. However, by 1986, courses for factory directors and company executives will be given mainly by the Chinese.

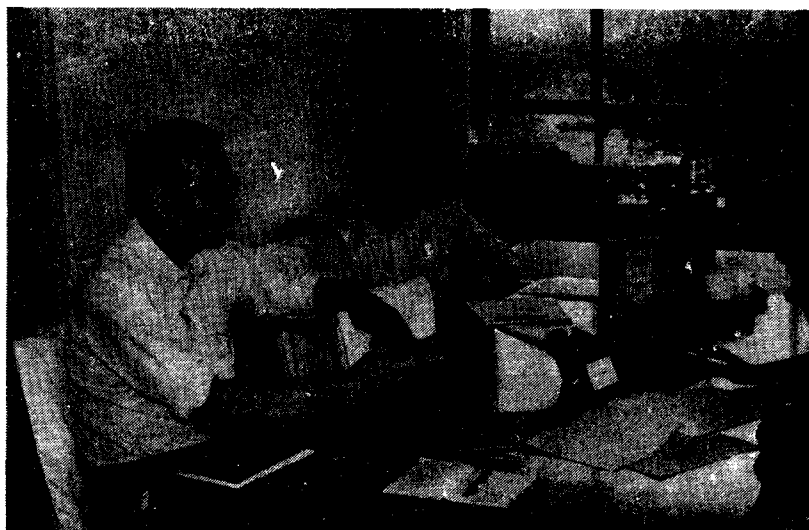
In the last five years, altogether 76 American professors and specialists have come over to teach. They include the Nobel laureate Dr. Lawrence R. Klein from the University of Pennsylvania; Viem Peter Kwok; Dr. William R. Dill, Dean of Babson College; Dr. Richard Vanhorn, President of the University of Houston; Dr. Jordan J. Baruch, former Assistant Secretary of the United States Department of Commerce; and Dr. Joseph A. Alutto, dean of the Management College of New York State University. Each one, during his stay, headed the American staff.

The teaching programme is run as planned by both sides. Any major change must be decided on through discussions by both sides. The curricula includes a course called Chinese socialist economic theory and economic laws.

The American staff all favour the development of Sino-American ties. Take project-management teacher Mr. John A. Bing, a retired executive of the M.W. Kellogg Co. of the United States. Since 1974 Mr. Bing has come to China several times to negotiate Chinese imports of whole sets of American chemical fertilizer production equipment. When the first training class for the co-operative projects was held in 1980, he was invited over to teach. His classes turned out to be very popular because he enriched his lectures with the personal experience he gained while working in both countries. As a result, he has stayed on to teach term after term. In an interview, he conceded that big problems do crop up in American trade with China due to a lack of mutual understanding. Therefore, he held that the Dalian management programme will help first the Chinese managers improve their work; it will also promote China-US understanding and finally be good for American companies to expand their business in China.

### Special Classes for Factory Directors

Most of the trainees attending these classes are under 45 years of age and at least have a college



Mr John A Bing.

education and long years of work experience. The course, divided into 3 stages and lasting 26 weeks, provides lessons in basics, professional competency and special branches. Requirement for graduation includes a written paper.

Basic lessons take up socialist economic theory, management, mathematics, accounting and computer ABC's — all taught by Chinese instructors. Professional lessons include management economics, financial management, production management, science and technology management, marketing, international marketing, and management and information systems — taught by American

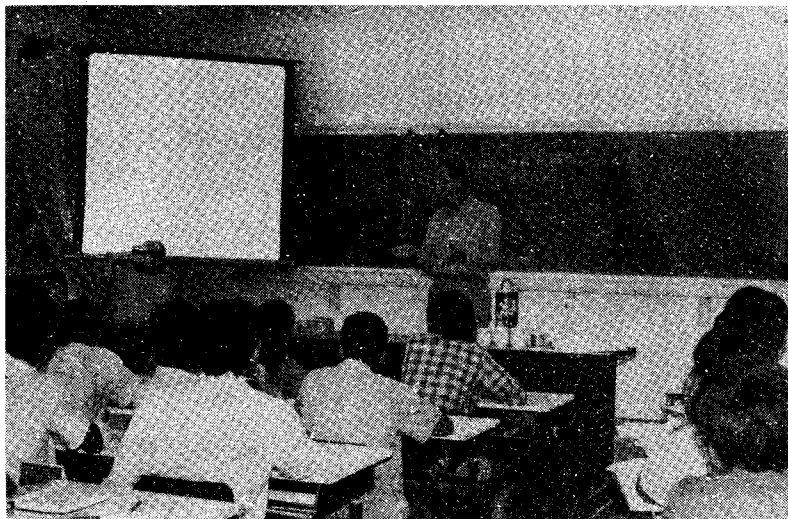
professors or specialists. Special courses which include project management, economics, international co-operation and import technology, are taught by Americans. But special courses on Chinese economic theories and policies are taught by Chinese specialists.

Lu Ruli, member of the sixth class, said he found the case analysis lectures in the training programme very useful. Remarking on the material provided by the American teachers, he added, "I can see they do a lot of preparation beforehand." He considered members of the American staff highly knowledgeable in their respective fields and very serious about teaching. Lu, a graduate of the Dalian Engineering Institute 25 years ago, now the director and deputy chief engineer of the Changdao Shipyard of the Guangzhou Huanan Ship Repairing Co., returned to study for the second time.

Zhang Changsong, a graduate from the first class of the Dalian centre and now president of the Board of Directors of the Sino-American International Engineering Company, said, "I think I'm using what I learnt at the Dalian centre. For instance, computer know-how and financial management." Through studies there, he

Classrooms at the Dalian centre.





Dr. Raymond G. Hunt lecturing.

now feels quite familiar with American management theories and terms.

The Dalian centre, in assessing the results of its programme, made a survey of 300 graduates in 1982. As shown by the 180 poll sheets which were returned, the results were: excellent—37.8 percent; helpful—56.4 percent; not very helpful—2.9 percent.

CAAC planning engineer Mo Yinfu is an excellent student. He found an American professor's course "management of the tourism market" particularly helpful. It enabled him to make a survey among his fellow students regarding CAAC's business and management. He described the results and offered his proposals in his graduation paper for improving CAAC's service, which has been given serious consideration by departments concerned.

### Postgraduate Study

A Master's degree programme is jointly provided by the Dalian centre and New York State University. In two years, Chinese students must complete all the courses required at the management college in Buffalo, New York, before they are conferred a Master's degree at the same col-

lege, and attend a work-study session in an American company.

All the students here are younger and better educated than in the factory directors' class. They are already university graduates with work experience of at least three years before they are enrolled. Moreover, they all have a comparatively good command of English, the language in which all the courses are taught.

"Intellectually, the students in the China MBA programme are equal to the US MBA students, but their math skills are even better. Their English language proficiency, generally speaking, is as good as most Asian students in the United States," said Dr. Raymond G. Hunt, director of the management department of the Buffalo college. Dr. Hunt teaches organizational behaviour and has said that because of different educational traditions, Chinese students, unlike their American counterparts, are not accustomed to questions and discussions in class with teacher. Dr. Hunt expressed satisfaction over the teamwork with his Chinese colleagues.

### Evaluation

Deputy Director of the Dalian training centre Zhu Shunqing,

who was fresh from Beijing, said the centre had accumulated some experiences and achieved initial results in the past five years since its establishment. He attributed those achievements to the much attention paid by the governments of the two countries. He said, "For China the centre is a 'window' through which we can learn a lot about Western managerial experience. For the United States, it is also a 'window' through which it can study Chinese economic development and learn how to expand trade with China."

Zhu considered the American staff highly efficient.

"To meet the needs of its policy of opening to the outside world and invigorating its domestic economy, it is necessary for China to train large numbers of managers who are steeped in modern management methods and able to evaluate economic returns," he emphasized. "I think we have a lot to learn from the West."

Modern management is a branch of science having both a social and a natural aspect, the deputy director explained. While the social systems, cultures and economic development of China and the United States are different, said Zhu, the inherent laws governing the development of a commodity economy are about the same. China is currently developing a planned commodity economy, but some important concepts of Western economic theories are useful for China's economic development. He bolstered his view by citing how well his students are using what they have learnt at the centre to accomplish their work.

According to Zhu, there are eight other similar centres in China, run by Chinese organizations alone or as joint ventures with Japan, Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany and other EC members. □



# China's Education Holds Bright Prospects

by WANG YIBING

*This is the last and concluding part of the education reform series. The first two articles, which dealt with the background and tasks of education reform, were published in issue Nos. 50 and 51. — Ed.*

ACCORDING to the goal set for China's education reforms, all workers and staff living in China's coastal areas, inland cities and moderately developed areas, which have a combined population of 300 million to 400 million, will receive a compulsory or vocational education by the mid-1990s. It is expected that 5 percent of these people will go on to finish college. The attainment of that goal will mean a solid intellectual foundation for China.

According to the reform plan, by the end of this century China's institutes of higher education will offer diverse, yet properly proportioned programmes, which will conform with the nation's economic capabilities. Through the implementation of such a programme, China will ultimately have the capacity to train specialists, scientists and technicians, who will eventually contribute major theoretical bases and practical solutions to problems arising from China's socialist modernization.

The road to the realization of such goals is, of course, not easy. Like many other developing countries, China faces an onslaught of problems in the process of reforming its educational system. Difficulties such as inadequate funding and a shortage of qualified teachers are not, however, insurmountable. That seemingly impossible hurdles can be overcome

has been borne out since the publication last May of the Decision on the Reform of the Educational System, and by the achievements recorded by experimental education units.

## Education Placed High on Agenda

During the "cultural revolution," many people, who were misled by "leftist" thinking, did not understand the importance of knowledge and education. Because of the pervasiveness of such thought, education's progress in China was seriously retarded. Now, however, education is making significant strides. In 1982, at its 12th National Congress, the Chinese Communist Party in an unprecedented move designated education as a critical facet of China's economic construction. Education in China has never before received such widespread attention.

In his speech at the National Education Conference on May 19, 1985, Deng Xiaoping, while also emphasizing education's strategic significance, volunteered to be a "rear-service minister," for and support all those engaged in education, science and technology. He called on leaders at all levels to "do more practical work" to promote education.

Soon after the conference, Hu Yaobang, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, called on government officials to strengthen local educational work. In response to this call, 3,000 cadres left Beijing for different parts of the country to train more qualified middle and primary school teachers.

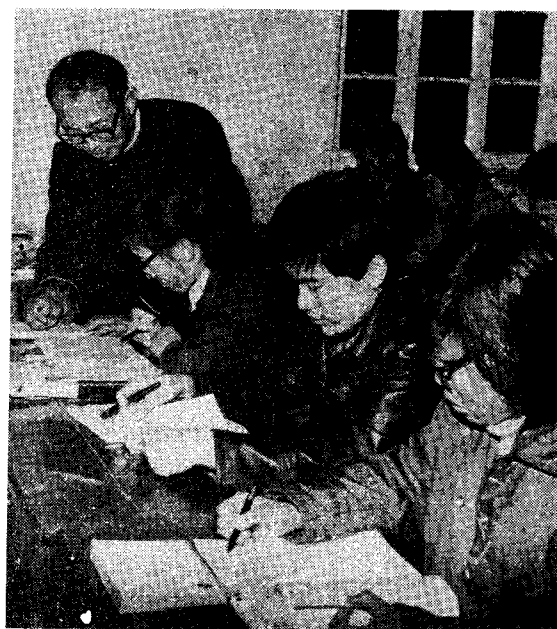
Recently, an increasing number of leaders in Party and govern-

ment organizations have come to recognize the importance of knowledge, qualified personnel and education, and have placed education high on their agenda.

To implement the "Decision on Educational Reform" almost all provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions have held or are preparing to discuss their own educational changes. At the meetings so far, top local leaders, together with representatives of all circles, have mapped out programmes for upgrading their area's educational undertakings and have found a variety of solutions to the crucial problems of money and teachers.

According to incomplete statistics, eight provincial and municipal governments, including Beijing, Liaoning and Jiangsu, have allocated an additional 1.05 billion yuan for the development of their education.

**Students of the Rural Development College in Shandong, the first of its kind in China, attending class.**



Officials in Hunan Province have decided that as of 1986, the provincial government will invest more funds in teacher training and will also see that the number of children attending school increases by 50 percent within five years as part of the nine-year compulsory education programme. In Sichuan Province, officials there this summer reformed the province's college enrolment system and gave college entrance committees the right to choose the academically strongest candidates.

In addition, the Liaoning government has said it will earmark 50 million yuan each year from 1986 to 1990 for the construction of housing facilities.

At the same time, Shanghai's municipal, county and township governments also allotted 50 million more yuan this year for renovating 350,000 square metres of school buildings.

Central government ministries and commissions that took direct charge of other schools and colleges also showed great enthusiasm for the development of education.

The Ministry of the Railways, for example, has allocated an extra 200 million yuan this year for the education of its workers and staff. In the period of the Seventh Five-Year Plan (1986-90), about 1 billion yuan (including a portion of foreign exchange) has been set aside for such use.

### Foundation and Potential

China's current educational base far exceeds that of 1949. That solid base serves as an important guarantee for the implementation of the current educational reforms. Throughout the country, where 95.3 percent of school-age children attend school, there are now 853,740 primary schools, 104,119 regular middle schools, secondary technical schools and vocational schools, with a total enrolment of 48.6144 million students; and 902 colleges and universities, with 1.4532 million students.

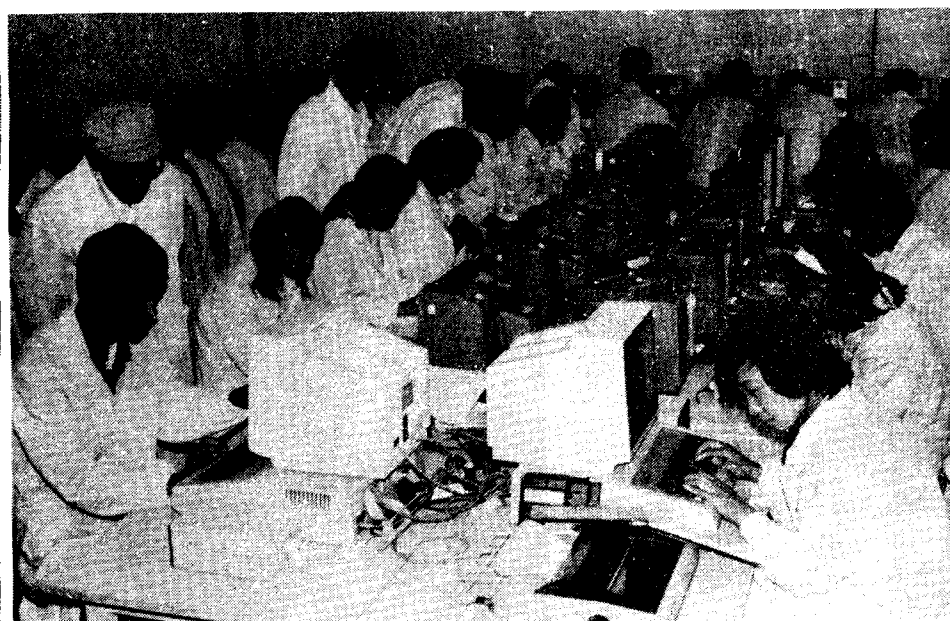
In addition, adult education has also taken shape, and now includes 1,157 institutes of higher learning, 48,076 secondary schools and 275,233 primary schools. Manning all of the institutes are 9.2591 mil-

lion teachers and 2.7986 million staff workers. Over the past 36 years, these teachers have provided a great deal towards China's economic construction. The training of these and new teachers is the focus of part of the reform plan, and is intended to further strengthen China's educational system.

According to the statistics of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the world's average ratio of college teachers to students is 1:12. In China that ratio is now 1:4.6. Because China's teaching and management systems are different, there are factors in our country which are incomparable with those in other nations. But on the whole, the ratio of teachers to students in China is too high. Despite this high percentage of teachers, Chinese colleges and universities do have considerable potential waiting to be tapped. The Shanghai Jiaotong University, which is an experimental unit, for example, had employed 2,000 teachers and 2,600 staff members before 1979. The ratio of teachers and staff to students in the university was 1:1, while that of teachers to students was 1:2.4. Because the university was overstaffed, many teachers did not receive sufficient assignments. Those teaching specialized courses only lectured an average of 1.5 hours a week. This situation, however, has changed. As a result of restructuring its personnel, labour and wage management systems and establishing a personal responsibility system, the university has boosted its enrolment to 5,830 without increasing the number of teachers. The teacher/student ratio has now reached a manageable 1:2.9. This encouraging situation in Jiaotong University is expected to continue to improve.

Another effective change spurred by the reforms has been the efficient use of educational equipment in China's colleges and uni-

In Jilin Province, 114,000 students are receiving vocational education. Student of the Changchun Computer School here are learning computer skills.



versities. The computer laboratory of the Beijing Polytechnical Institute, for example, houses two Model PDP—23 mini-computers with more than 10 terminals. After rearranging the laboratory teaching timetables and extending its service hours, the laboratory now offers 19,000 hours of terminal service a semester, instead of 9,000 hours before the reform.

By reorganizing their faculties, many universities and colleges now also run branch schools, whereby surplus teachers and staff members are employed to teach or work for day students, who provide their own expenses. As a result of the implementation of the principle of tapping the potential of old schools so as to enrol more students, in 1984 the number of new students and the total number of students in institutes of higher learning more than doubled that of 1978. The number of students enrolled in specific fields of study has increased rapidly.

### New Channels for Funding

From 1950 to 1983, the state allocated a total of 134.9 billion yuan, or 6.6 percent of the state's expenditures for development of education. Between 1976 and 1984, state outlays for education increased 14.2 percent a year and contributed significantly to the restoration and development of education in China. Funding shortages, however, remain a problem because the increases went, at least in part, to teachers' wage increases and to subsidies to offset price-hikes and the growing cost of developing educational undertakings.

In an effort to effect radical changes in education, the Decision stipulated that within a certain period to come, central and local government allocations for education should increase faster than the state's current revenues, while average per-student expenditures will gradually increase.



Children of herdsmen in Manrima Township, Maqu County, Gansu Province, are given primary education in a boarding school run by Buddhist Gazang Chenglai (Third, left).

The Decision also explicitly stipulated that local governments use a balanced proportion of their reserves for education, and that township governments should use a majority of their revenues for education. Local governments, the Decision says, are then allowed to levy extra charges for education. In addition, local governments should encourage state-owned enterprises, public organizations and individuals to run schools. Units, collectives and individuals are also urged to donate money to their local schools.

This decision is logical and feasible as the rural economy is making rapid progress and the peasants are eager to raise their own, and their children's general knowledge and technical skills. According to incomplete statistics, in 1984 before the Decision was made, about 4 billion yuan was collected throughout the country for educational purposes.

Education reforms also have opened up new financial sources for institutes of higher learning and vast vistas for better results from investment. According to the stipulations of the Decision, apart

from ministries and commissions under the State Council, provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions, China's major cities are also urged to run colleges and universities. In recent years, 82 vocational schools that provide short-term courses for non-subsidized day students who are expected to find jobs by themselves after graduation, have been opened in China. Out of those 82 schools, 73 have been financed by the nation's key cities.

The Decision also endorsed the "trial method," practised for years by some colleges and universities, whereby the colleges and universities that have fulfilled the state quotas, are allowed to enrol and train students for a future employer in return for a certain amount of training fees. In 1983 institutes of higher learning in China trained 3,000 students entrusted by other establishments. In 1985, the number of such students increased to 58,000, almost 10 percent of the state enrolment quotas. □



### **Improving Disaster Control Measures**

from "JINGJI RIBAO"  
(Economic Daily)

CHINA has long been plagued by frequent floods and droughts. From 206 BC to 1949, more than 1,750 serious floods and droughts were recorded in China.

Apart from the influence of atmospheric circulation, monsoon winds and typhoons, which contributes much to uneven precipitation in China, the unique characteristics of China's major rivers also add to the frequency of flooding and droughts. The main cause of flooding on the Huanghe (Yellow) River is the silt found in the water. The Huanghe River carries about 1.6 billion tons of silt a year and deposits about 400 million tons of it on the riverbed of its lower reaches. As a result of the deposition, the riverbed rises by 10 cm each year. The Changjiang (Yangtze) River also foments disaster because it is not wide enough for water to be discharged during the flooding seasons.

Since the founding of New China, a number of efforts have been made to harness the nation's major rivers and to build water conservation projects. In total, more than 160,00 km of dam and dykes have been constructed or reinforced, and people in the country have built 86,000 reservoirs and 5,000 major irrigation networks, each covering more than 670 hectares. Although these efforts have significantly improved China's ability to prevent and deal with natural disasters, floods and droughts do still occur, which is why added efforts are still needed.

First, continued efforts should be made to dredge the riverbeds and reinforce the dams and dykes. Additional water conservation projects are also needed to regulate the rivers' flow for irrigation, power generation and other useful purposes.

Second, it is imperative to stem the soil erosion on the loess plateau and to halt the filling in of lakes in the drainage areas of the Changjiang and Haihe rivers.

Third, the nation needs to designate a number of flood-diversion and detention basins in order to minimize the losses incurred from flooding and drought.

Fourth, cities and new industrial bases and mining areas that are located in areas susceptible to flooding should build effective flood control networks.

Fifth, the existent flood control, irrigation and drainage facilities should be properly maintained and repaired, and punishment should be meted out to those who damage them.

Sixth, urban and rural residents alike should learn to use water economically, while the nation also attempts to foster such practices in its industrial and agricultural operations located in areas where water is in short supply. When necessary, trans-regional water-diversion projects are also recommended.

### **Helping Delinquents Through Film**

from "LIAO WANG"  
(Outlook Weekly)

A NEW film, *Juvenile Delinquents*, which will be released in China soon, opens with the words: "The people involved with this film asked a group of young offenders to become actors and actresses for a while in the hope of somehow contributing to their rehabilitation."

Following the example of a number of prisoner art troupes, which have performed around China, director of the film Zhang Liang said he chose real-life delinquents because he thought acting might be effective therapy. He said he wanted to persuade the wayward youth to perform a worthwhile service and to atone for their wrongdoings. Zhang, who works for the Zhujiang (Pearl River) Film Studio, said he

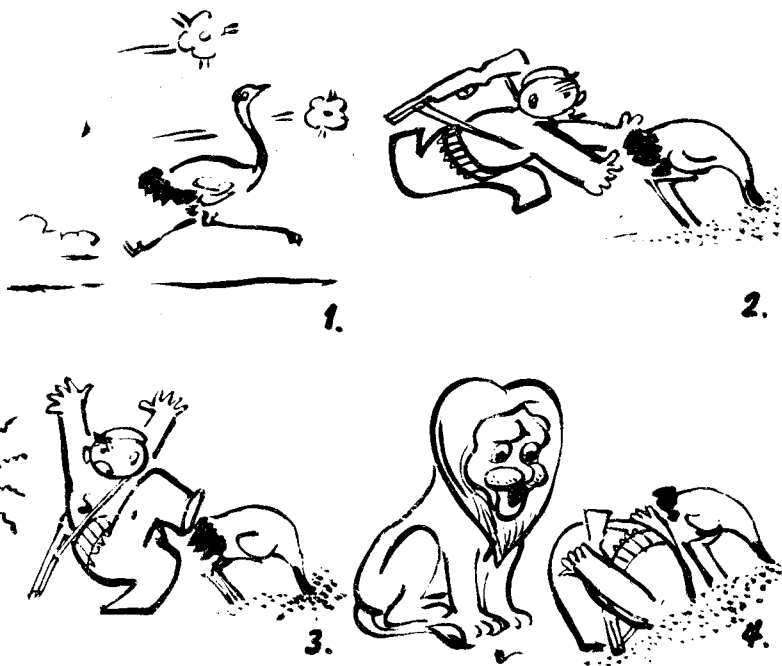
give the delinquents new hope.

The film, which shows the life of Chinese juvenile offenders through the observations of a journalist, was inspired by a visit to a reformatory by Zhang's wife Wang Jingzhu, who is a screen writer for the Zhujiang Film Studio. One of Wang's most vivid memories from that day was of the parents' visits with their recusant children. When the gates to the reformatory opened, Wang said, the parents, who had been lined up outside since early morning, raced to their children, some of whom, in their sadness and remorse, knelt at the parents' feet and asked for forgiveness. The scene and the youths' tears touched Wang's heart. It was there and then that she decided to write a film about the government's efforts to redeem China's juvenile delinquents.

For each of the 14 young actors and actresses and those young offenders who composed and sang the film's theme song wang bought a notebook in which she wrote: "You should take your destiny in your own hands. Think hard and cherish your dignity. Try to mend your ways and improve your life."

The young lawbreakers said the acting experience impressed them the importance of turning over a new leaf. "My role in the film was short," one wrote in his notebook. "But life's road is long. How shall I play my role in life?"

Because of each of the 14 delinquents' improved behaviour since working on the film, the government has shortened their sentences.



Cartoon by Shi Pu  
(Reprinted from "China Daily")

## Experts See Rise in Sports Activities

from "XIN TI YU"  
(Literature Gazete)

PEOPLE'S desire to participate in sports and physical exercises depends greatly upon their living standards and education. Surveys have shown that by the end of this century China will have made considerable progress in economy, education, science and culture. Will people become more interested in sports and physical training? More trim and energetic?

At present, people's expenditures for sporting goods are very limited. Most of those who do physical exercises regularly have no special sportswear. Very few families spend money buying sports apparatus. Statistics show that only an average of 4 percent of domestic spending goes towards sports and entertainment.

By the end of the century, as the average per-capita national income will reach US\$ 800-1,000, big increases in personal income will allow people to spend more for physical build-up.

Furthermore, increased leisure will allow people to have more time in physical exercises.

In the coming 15 years, the burden of housework for city residents will be lessened as service trades improve.

Currently, city residents spend a daily average of four and a half hours doing house chores. It is hoped that the time will be reduced to three hours. Also, five-day or six-hour-per-day working systems will be tried out in some enterprises to offer people a lot more free time.

Changes in the traditional Chinese diet will also lead to changes in physical exercises.

Now, most Chinese draw 60 to 70 percent of the calories they need from grain and only 11 percent from meat, poultry, eggs, fish and dairy products. But diets are changing, along with increases in income. Specialists predict that each city resident's annual consumption of meat will increase from the current 17.4 kilogrammes to more than 25 kilogrammes.

Weight-reducing and keeping in shape will be the goals for many people. Exercises to cut excessive calories and prevent heart diseases, which now prevail in developed countries, will be adopted by more and more Chinese.

Better education will contribute to greater enthusiasm for physical build-up.

By the year 2000, nine-year compulsory education will be in practice and illiteracy will be almost wiped out in urban areas. Most city residents will have had at least a high school education. As they are exposed to more scientific knowledge, they will pay more attention to physical training and keeping in good shape.

More middle-aged and elderly people will join in as well. China is a young country in terms of its people's age structure — 38.6 percent of the population now are under 15. But the average life span is increasing, and the number of people above 60 is rising by 3 percent each year. By 2000, this age group will increase to 130 million or 11 percent of the population. Since older people are generally more serious about physical exercises, the number of people out exercising will increase.

### China Exports More Equipment

By the end of November 1985, the total annual export volume of the China National Machinery Equipment Import and Export Corp. (CNMEIEC) reached US\$220 million. The corporation's import volume came to US\$480 million, of which US\$280 million worth of goods has been delivered to China.

In the past China largely exported farm and sideline products, mineral products and tex-

tiles and other light industrial goods. Recently, the country's export structure has experienced only insignificant change. The export volume of mechanical and electrical products now accounts for only 9 percent of the nation's total exports.

During the Sixth Five-Year Plan period (1981-85), China's export of mechanical and electrical products made some headway. During that period, CNMEIEC, whose products have been sold in 128 countries, had a total export volume of US\$1,530 million. The corporation's exports of complete sets of equipment were

worth US\$6.5 million in 1980. By 1985, however, that figure had jumped to US\$26 million. In addition to its normal trade the CNMEIEC in recent years has also engaged in other trade procedures, such as processing with supplied materials, compensation trade, barter trade, technological exports and co-operative production. Since early 1981, CNMEIEC has imported single, complete sets of equipment and technology for 352 projects. The focus of its imported projects, however, has shifted from complete sets of equipment to technology for specific purposes.

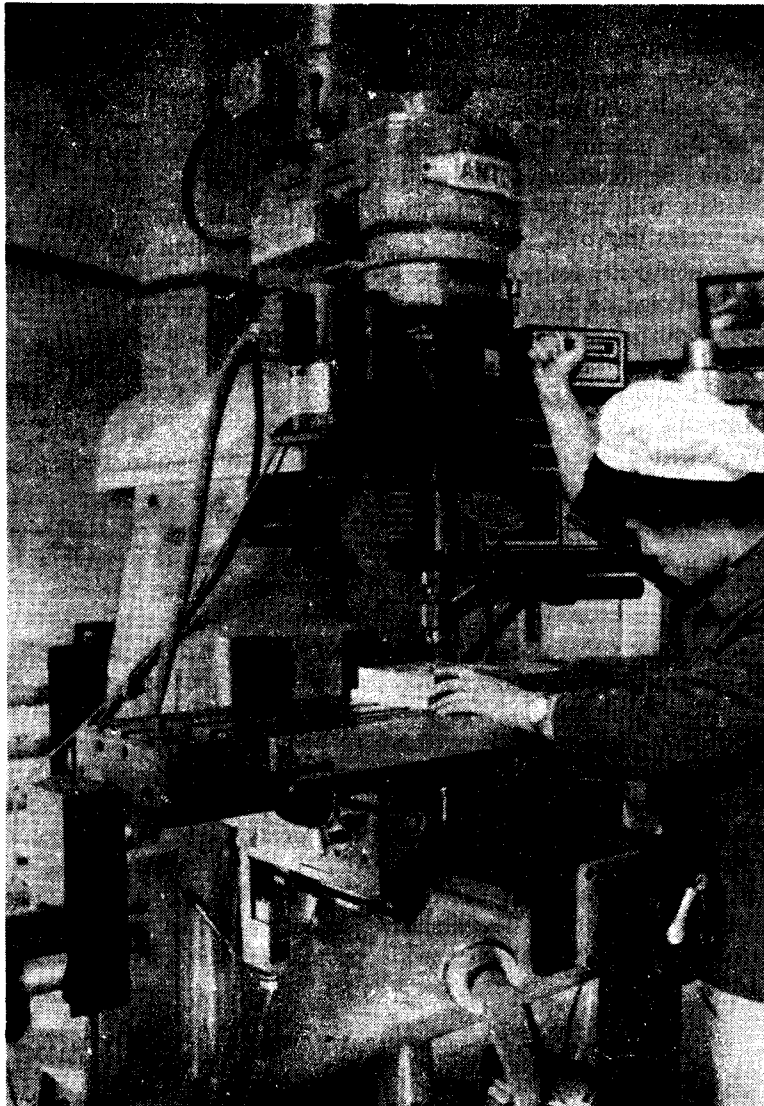
Guo Kun, general manager of CNMEIEC, said apart from maintaining a certain amount of increase in its export volume during the Seventh Five-Year Plan period (1986-90), his corporation also will concentrate on building a number of export commodity centres and turning out competitive export products. Guo Kun said he expects China's machinery exports to increase significantly by 1990.

### Sino-Hungarian Trade Expands

As a result of a barter agreement between the Chinese and Hungarian governments, the total trade volume between the two countries in 1985 is estimated to reach 741 million Swiss francs, or 171.4 percent more than the trade volume of 1984. Ervin Szuszkzy, commercial counsellor of the Hungarian Embassy in China, said trade relations between Hungary and China are proceeding as planned.

The 1986-90 Sino-Hungarian long-term trade agreement was signed in Budapest on June 1, 1985, and the newly established

One of the Ningbo Machine-Tool Plants universal radial machines.



economic, trade, technological co-operative committee has begun work.

In recent years, trade volume between China and Hungary has increased rapidly. In 1982 trade between the two reached 80 million Swiss francs. That figure jumped to 273 million Swiss francs in 1984.

The form of trade between the two countries is barter trade. The bulk of Hungarian goods exported to China include buses, trucks, chassis for motor vehicles, steel products, medical equipment and chemical fertilizer. Hungary's major imports from China include textiles, canned foods, rice, cotton, nonferrous metals and industrial chemicals.

Apart from the barter trade between the two countries in the past few years, China and Hungary have also explored new forms of co-operation. The Lanzhou TV Factory in Gansu Province and several enterprises under the China Great Wall Industrial Corp., in co-operation with the Videoton Industrial and Foreign Trade Co. of Hungary, have manufactured colour and black-and-white TV sets. Members of Hungary's Videoton are now participating in the 1985 China Computer Technology Exhibition held in Beijing, where Videoton products are on display.

## UTC Varies Ventures in China

The Sikorsky Co., a division of the United Technologies Corp. (UTC) of the United States, delivered 24 S-70C helicopters to the Chinese People's Liberation Army in November 1985.

The total trade volume between China and UTC companies amounted to US\$16.3 billion in 1984. China's major UTC purchases have been aircraft motors,

helicopters, electronic equipment, air-conditioning systems, elevators and standard controls.

UTC, an advanced technology design and manufacturing group, is the United States' seventh largest firm and its third largest defence contractor. Since 1973 the Pratt and Whitney Co., the Sikorsky Co., the Essex Group and Otis Elevator Co., all under UTC, have signed co-operative contracts with the Chinese. Other UTC companies, such as Hamilton Standard, have also maintained close trade relations with China.

At the invitation of the China International Trust and Investment Corp., Hubert Faure, chairman of the United Technologies International Business Corp., visited China in November 1985 and met with Chinese businesses and government officials. Faure lauded the products and spare parts, and particularly the astronautic industrial products turned out by China. He said he thought the Sino-US co-operation would be successful.

The China Tianjin Otis Elevator Co., a joint venture financed by Otis Elevator, the Tianjin Elevator Co. and the China International Trust and Investment Corp., was set up in 1983 and went into operation late last year. Karl J. Krapek, president of Otis Elevator's Pacific Operations, told *Beijing Review* recently that encouraging economic results have been obtained in the joint production of elevators in the past year. The output value of the Tianjin operation this year is expected to increase by 40 percent, with output rising by 30 percent and labour productivity up 51 percent over 1982, the year before the joint venture was set up. Krapek said the first year returns logged by the joint venture are the best Otis Elevator has had in an overseas operation.

The Tianjin Otis Co. is one of

the largest elevator producers in China. The company's 110-metre experimental tower is not only the tallest tower in China, but is also one of the tallest in the world. Otis uses the tower as a working laboratory in which it tests the most advanced gearless and high-speed elevators.

The domestic demand for the operation's elevators and hoists normally exceeds the supply. Only 10 percent of its products are for export. Krapek said the production capacity of the venture is expected to increase by 25 percent in 1986. If the material supply is guaranteed, the annual production capacity of the company will reach 2,000, he said. Krapek also said chances are good that Otis will expand its operation in China, and that the venture may become China's major producer and exporter of high quality elevators.

### News in Brief

- Chinese and Japanese aviation officials have agreed to an increase of 45 percent in passenger transport capacity and an increase of 70 percent in air freight capacity on routes between China and Japan starting from 1986.

Presently a total of 6,600 seats are provided weekly for passengers on the two airlines. In 1986 the figure will exceed 10,000. Some of CAAC's smaller planes on routes between China and Japan will be replaced by newly purchased A310s and Boeing 767s.

- A 207-km highway, built by China for the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, opened to traffic recently. This highway is a communication artery linking the eastern provinces of the country with Aden, the capital. The completion of this highway will play an important role in developing the economy in the remote areas, as well as Yemen's coastal fishing resources.

### Play Recalls Xinjiang's Liberation

A five-act drama, about the peaceful takeover of Xinjiang, was staged in October in Urumqi, the capital of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. *Merits and Faults*, which is set in the fall of 1949, is a drama about two Kuomintang local officials, Tao Zhiyue, deputy head in charge of political and military affairs in northwest China and the commander of the Xinjiang garrison, and Burhan Shahidi, chairman of the local government as they respond to the Communist Party of China's (CPC) call for the peaceful settlement of Xinjiang and rebel against the KMT government.

Tao, the hero, had two options when the CPC defeated the KMT in most part of mainland China. One was to resist the CPC. The other was to rebel against the KMT. He chose the latter. Tao's subordinates also had divided loyalties. Three high-ranking officers, including one secret service agent of the KMT government, allied against the rebellion. When they learnt Tao favoured the rebellion, they devised a plot to kidnap him and assassinate Burhan. Upon hearing the plot Tao showed his courage by daringly warning the would-be assassins of the consequences of a killing. The three later fled Xinjiang, leading to the consolidation of Tao's control of the army there. Soon Xinjiang was peacefully liberated, sparing the local residents bloodshed and destruction.

Burhan, a Uygur, who is warm-hearted and resolute, also favoured the rebellion, and secretly dealt with the CPC envoy Deng Liqun, who is now a member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee. Qu Wu, then the mayor of Dihua (present-day Urumqi), who

is now the acting chairman of the Revolutionary Committee of the Kuomintang, also sided with the rebellion, and proposed that the CPC and the KMT settle their conflicts through negotiation.

It is rare for China to represent so many living people in a play.

Tao and Burhan, both now 92 years old, serve as vice-chairmen of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and went to Xinjiang in October 1985 to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

Though ailing, Burhan insisted on watching the drama being performed. During the performance, he told his daughter, "The rebellion would have failed if Tao hadn't been so clever." After the performance, he praised the actor who

portrayed him for his vivid imitation.

Due to illness, Tao sent his 71-year-old son to watch the drama as his representative. When Tao learnt, before coming to Xinjiang, that General Wang Zhen who led the People's Liberation Army's (PLA) march to Xinjiang in 1949 asked him to join the central delegation to celebrate the anniversary, he insisted on visiting Xinjiang despite his poor health.

After the rebellion, Tao was appointed the deputy commander of the PLA's Xinjiang military unit and commander of the Xinjiang production and construction corps. He travelled throughout the region and made great contributions to the area's construction.

During the celebration, Tao visited many places he had worked in the past and met many old friends and former subordinates. "It could not be a dream," the old man said as he surveyed his former post. "The change is awfully great."

Burhan Shahidi (first from right) greets the actor who portrays him in the play.





## Converting From Foe to Friend

*Reminiscences of Wei Lihuang*, (in Chinese) written by Zhao Rongsheng, was recently published by the Chinese Cultural and Historical Reference Materials Publishing House.

Wei Lihuang, (1897-1960), a high-ranking Kuomintang (KMT) general and an active commander in the fight against the Red Army during China's 1927-37 civil war, later became a friend of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and served as a deputy chairman of the National Defence Council under the central government in 1955. The book details the commander's eventful life and the change in his attitude towards the CPC.

Zhao Rongsheng, who served as Wei's secretary, provides readers with a great deal of information on Wei's life and political conversion. During the War of Resistance Against Japan (1937-45) Wei

had close contacts with CPC's leaders such as Zhu De and Zhou Enlai, and co-operated well with the CPC's 8th Route Army in battles against the Japanese invaders. In 1938, as a deputy commander, Wei visited Yanan, which was then the headquarters for the CPC. Deeply impressed by the CPC's sincerity in co-ordinating its efforts with those of Kuomintang in fighting the Japanese, Wei asked the 8th Route Army to recommend someone to serve as his secretary. That man turned out to be Zhao Rongsheng, the author of Wei's biography. Though Zhao reported that Wei expressed a desire to join the Communist Party of China, at that time the CPC and Kuomintang had agreed not to recruit each others' members. As a result, the Party refused Wei's application and instead encouraged Wei to become a revolutionary member of Kuomintang and to contribute

from there to the Chinese revolution.

Because of his sympathy with the left, Wei was removed from his post as governor of Henan Province and was stripped of his title as general by KMT leader Chiang Kai-shek. In 1942 Chiang appointed Wei to the command of the Chinese Expedition Army to Burma in the battle against the Japanese. Chiang, however, put a hold on the appointment after being told Wei was not devoted to the Kuomintang. Depressed by his treatment by the KMT leadership Wei visited Zhou Enlai in Chongqing. There Zhou told Wei that he got into trouble because of his connection with the Communists.

It wasn't until the winter of 1943, when the Japanese had pushed into the western part of Yunnan Province, cutting off Yunnan-Burma, that Chiang

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allowed Wei to take up his post as expedition commander. After careful preparation, the allied army of China and the American forces launched a counterattack against the Japanese. The attack, which lasted from May 1944 to January 1945, ended up destroying two divisions of Japanese troops and reopening the Sino-Indian highway. Although Wei was highly praised by General J.W. Stilwell, the US commander of the military area of China, India and Burma, Chiang still deprived Wei of the power to command, because he did not trust him.

Wei visited the United States in 1946 at the invitation of G.C. Marshall, US envoy to China. While there a number of US Army officials welcomed Wei warmly. They even permitted Wei to visit the secret nuclear weapon testing grounds.

During that same trip abroad, Wei also visited Western Europe with Wang De Zhao, a Chinese-French nuclear physicist. Wei told Wang that both the Soviet Union and the United States were sincere in helping China to resist the Japanese. He said he also hoped China, the United States

and the Soviet Union would cooperate in employing nuclear energy for peace end in the future.

Wei also told Wang that he had good relations with the PLA Commander-in-Chief Zhu De. He said he believed the CPC was destined to win the civil war and that he would side with the CPC in promoting peace. Wang promised Wei that he would pass Wei's message to the CPC Central Committee via a member of the French Communist Party.

In 1948, after a series of losing battles Chiang appointed Wei the commander in charge of the KMT army in northeast China. Soon afterward Wei received an indirect message from the CPC asking him to act at an opportune moment. Wei, however, was unable to contact Yanan, where the CPC Central Committee was located, or the local Party branch.

With no specific CPC directions, therefore, Wei was forced to go it alone. Arguing that defence was the best strategy, Wei took no action and thereby minimized the Kuomintang's chances to effectively attack the PLA. Furious over Wei's tactics, Chiang went to the northeast three times to command the troops to bypass Wei's

decisions. It was too late, however, to turn the tide. Chiang lost 470,000 troops in the Liaoxi-Shenyang Campaign in northeast China.

Returning Nanjing, the capital of the KMT government, Wei was put under house arrest by Chiang. But Wei managed to escape to Hongkong and although Chiang later invited him to Taiwan, Wei rejected the offer.

On January 24, 1955 the late Premier Zhou Enlai declared that Taiwan was China's inseparable territory and other countries had no right to interfere with China's internal affairs. Zhang Zhi-zhong and Fu Zuoyi, two patriotic KMT generals who lived in mainland China after the Kuomintang fled to Taiwan, openly supported Zhou's stand. Some newspapers in Hongkong attacked the two generals personally. In speaking of the generals' comments, Wei said: "What both said what any Chinese should say. Although I live in Hongkong I say the same thing."

*Reminiscences of Wei Lihuang*, filled as it is with both historical and personal details, is an enlightening and informative foray into the mind of a valued communist convert.

— Zhou Shu

北京周报英文版第五十二期（一九八五年十二月三十日出版）邮政代号二—九二二·北京市期刊登记证第七三三三号

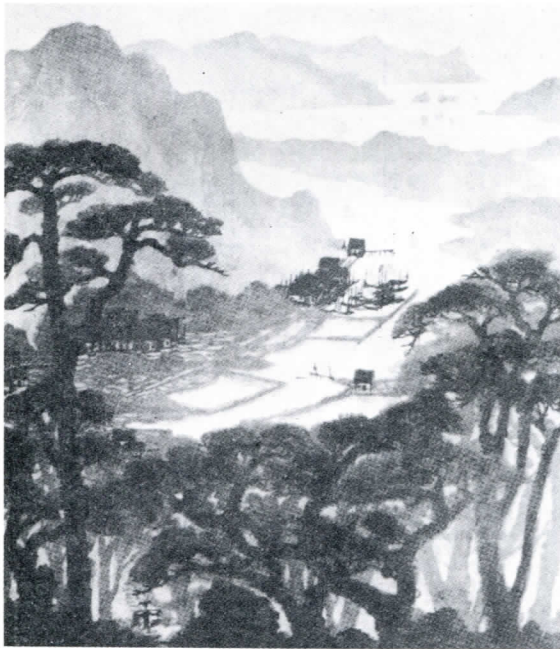
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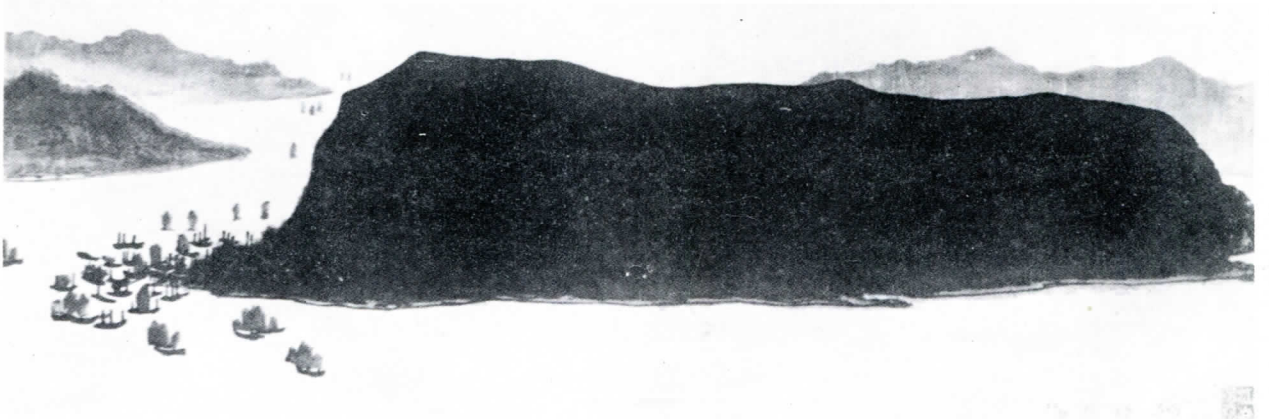
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## ART PAGE

### **Woodcuts by Mei Chuangji**

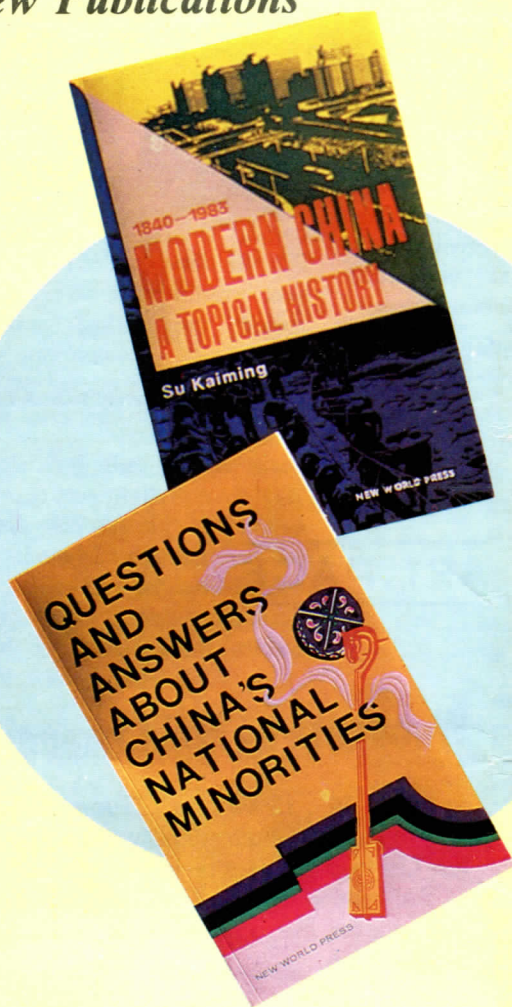
Born in 1940 in Guangdong Province, Mei Chuangji now teaches at the Chinese University in Hongkong.

The following wood-block prints by Mei depict the natural landscape of south China.



Homeward.

## New Publications



### Modern China: A Topical History (1840-1983)

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